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# Arab news

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## TODAY IN Arab news

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A team of Korean students has just completed a visit to the Kingdom for ten days at the invitation of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare. They were very impressed by the rapid development in various fields and the hospitality and peace-loving nature of the people. — Page 2

### Ulster's covert war

The Northern Ireland's police are increasingly using covert teams to combat guerrillas fighting to end British rule in the province. — Page 4

### Third World debts

The World Bank affirms that "there is no generalized debt crisis" in the Third World, and that their money troubles "pose no threat to the stability of international financial intermediation" mainly because of aid from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to the biggest debtors. — Page 5

### Islam in perspective

Today's commentary is on the origin of monotheistic religions. Among others, Our Dialogue answers questions on test-tube babies, heart transplantation and inheritance of grandchildren. — Page 7

### Building purse for Walker

Georgia's Herschel Walker became the richest Pro Football player when he signed a reported \$5 million deal with the New Jersey Generals in the fledgling United States Football League. The contract is for three years. — Page 9

### S. Africa's slave labor

Black children as young as seven are forced to work long hours on S. Africa's white-owned farms for little or no wages and in conditions of starvation and squalor, a London-based human rights group says in an illustrated report. — Page 12

## Fahd to grace Faisal awards

RIYADH, Feb. 24 (SPA) — King Fahd will attend the distribution of prizes to the winners of this year's King Faisal International Awards for serving Islam, Islamic studies, Arabic literature and medicine at the King Faisal Hall here Tuesday night, it was announced Thursday.

The prize for serving Islam was awarded to Sheikh Hassem Muhammad Makhlouf of Egypt and Tenko Abdul-Rahman of Malaysia.

The Islamic Studies Prize was given to Dr. Muhammad Abdul-Khalik Odeima of Egypt and the Arab Literature Prize to Dr. Shawkat Dhaif of Egypt. The medical prize went to Prof. Wallace Peters of Britain.

The board decided to hold the prize for science until next year.

The Faisal Foundation, set up in 1976, aims at encouraging research activities in Islamic, scientific, cultural and social fields both at local and international levels, in addition to its worldwide charity services.

**Loud music sends system off-key**  
VIENNA, Feb. 24 (R) — Loud music during meals can cause indigestion and lead to permanent stomach upsets, the Bulgarian News Agency has said.

It said Wednesday that Bulgarian scientists had established that loud noise could lead to a constriction of blood supply to the stomach and reduce its supply of gastric juices.

"The loud noise of an orchestra not only spoils the cosy atmosphere of a restaurant and makes it hard for people to enjoy cosy talks there. It also impairs the assimilation of food," the agency said.

## Terrorism condemned by PNC

ALGIERS, Feb. 24 (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) parliament-in-exile has strongly condemned terrorism in a move which may help improve ties with European states.

A resolution adopted by the policy-making Palestine National Council (PNC), which wound up a nine-day meeting here Wednesday night, states: "The PNC strongly condemns terrorism and international terrorism headed by official American-Israeli terrorism directed at the Palestinian people, the PLO, the Lebanese people, the Arab nation and other world liberation movements."

The resolution passed without debate. PLO observers said the statement, though couched to an attack on the U.S. and Israel, was the clearest rejection of terrorism.

They noted that a renunciation of terrorism was a condition originally set by Britain for a meeting between Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and a seven-man Arab League team including a PLO official, according to Arab League sources.

The PLO rejected the condition. The team was due to visit London to promote an Arab Middle East peace plan and its trip has been repeatedly postponed.

A number of resolutions adopted by the PNC spoke of escalating the PLO's armed struggle against Israel, but PLO observers interpreted these as referring to attacks on military targets.

Meanwhile, Palestinian leaders in the occupied West Bank published notices in an East Jerusalem newspaper Thursday supporting PNC resolutions. The notices, in *Al-Fajr* newspaper, were signed by members of the outlawed National Guidance Committee.

The council's resolutions called for an independent Palestinian state but did not categorically reject President Reagan's peace plan for Palestinian self-rule in association with Jordan.

Former Nablus Mayor Bassam Shakaa said the resolutions pointed "to the unity of the Palestinian people and its responsibility to continue the struggle."

Kerim Khalaf, the former mayor of Ramallah, said the council's decisions represented the Palestinians' goals. "We in the occupied territories are responsible for supporting and strengthening those decisions," he added.

## Erbakan jailed for four years

ANKARA, Feb. 24 (Agencies) — Necmettin Erbakan, Turkey's most prominent Islamic politician before the 1980 military coup, was jailed for four years Thursday on charges of trying to establish an Islamic state.

A military court also sentenced the 57-year-old former leader of the now-abolished National Salvation Party (NSP) to 16 months in internal exile in the western Anatolian town of Eskisehir on completion of his prison term, reporters in court said.

Twenty-two other leaders of the NSP, a small Muslim fundamentalist party, received jail sentences of up to three-and-a-half years on the same charges of breaking Turkey's secular state laws.

Erbakan, twice deputy prime minister in the 1970s, was jailed after the coup but was released 15 months ago pending the outcome of his trial which began in April 1981.

NSP sources said they would lodge an appeal and they did not expect Erbakan to be imprisoned while it was being heard.

Among those sentenced Thursday was Kikut Ozal, brother of Turgut Ozal who served as deputy prime minister responsible for economic affairs in the military government until last summer. Twelve other accused were acquitted.



MOUSE IN LION'S DEN: What the lion didn't see, the lens of a well-focused camera did. A shot in a million, this picture shows a mouse sneaking out of a hole to nibble on a bit of leftover bone in the lion's cage. Knowing how much cats enjoy catching mice, this bold little mouse was taking a big gamble. The snap taken at a zoo in Southampton, England, is certainly one for the scrap book.

## With Assam rioting unabated

## Muslims flee en masse

GORESHWAR, Feb. 24 (Agencies) — Thousands of Muslim refugees have fled trouble spots in the northeastern Indian state of Assam for fear that the massacre last week of about 1,500 immigrants may be repeated, local officials said Thursday.

As the immigrants streamed into neighboring districts and sought refuge in crowded relief camps, the police reported another mass slaughter in upper Assam, (picture on page 12) They said nearly 100 persons were killed in the past three days. Police said they had recovered the bodies of 50 immigrants. They also reported trouble Thursday in the central Darrang district, where troops had been called to quell the riots.

In the small railway town of Goreswar, officials said large numbers of immigrants, most of them Muslims, had been arriving over the past week to escape fighting with ethnic Assamese Hindus.

nearly 10,000 refugees have been lodged in three camps nearby in the central Kamrup district about 80 kilometers north of Gauhati, the state capital. The railway station is teeming with families and many are living near the tracks in makeshift huts.

In the Indian state of West Bengal, at least 6,000 immigrants have taken shelter in camps after fleeing the unrest. In the central Nongdong district scene of the worst massacre last week, thousands of people are in camps.

Many were still camping out on the station platform and others were trying to sell the poultry, potatoes and rice they had carried with them when they fled.

Meanwhile, Congress-I Party has won 87 of 105 seats decided so far in Assam state elections, the Press Trust of India reported. Eighteen of the 126 seats in the legislature will be left vacant after polling was disrupted by a boycott drive.

## Anti-cancer vaccine in offing

LONDON, Feb. 24 (ONS) — Vaccination against hepatitis could largely prevent liver cancer and save tens of thousands of lives a year, according to new medical studies.

Senior doctors from 16 countries said after a meeting in Geneva last week that "for the first time unique opportunities exist to prevent a frequent cancer by vaccination."

Liver cancer is one of the 10 most common cancers in the world and one of the most deadly. Particularly prevalent in developing countries, it strikes 250,000 people a year.

Arie Zuckerman, professor of microbiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, who co-chaired the Geneva meeting, said he believed the vaccine might prevent 80 percent of liver cancer and that 200,000 lives a year could be saved "at a conservative estimate."

"This is an exciting advance," said Zuckerman, "a landmark in preventive medicine." Field tests on the vaccine are to be carried out in West Africa, Burma and China. Doctors say the breakthrough is possible because many of the people who contract liver cancer are afflicted with the virus hepatitis B. About 200 million people suffer from this virus, with many babies being infected at birth.

Studies carried out in several countries have shown that the immunization of babies can prevent hepatitis B infection, thus eliminating that particular stepping stone to cancer.

## Malta seeks asylum for hijackers

VALLETTA, Feb. 24 (R) — The Maltese government is still trying to find a country to accept the two Libyan Army officers who hijacked a Libyan plane and held 158 persons hostage for three days, officials said Thursday.

The two, first lieutenants At-Tawati Mansur Al-Mahdi and Abdussalam Abu Kijja, surrendered to Maltese authorities Wednesday after Prime Minister Dom Mintoff guaranteed their safety and pledged to help them get political asylum in another country.

Diplomatic sources said Morocco and Sudan were the most likely countries but Morocco was thought to be unwilling to accept the men. Sudanese interests in Malta

are handled by the embassy in Rome.

Government sources said a series of contacts were under way with various embassies here. During a speech to parliament Wednesday night Mintoff singled out the United States Embassy for special thanks in helping end the hijack.

The sources said Mintoff's reference could indicate that the United States was being approached but a U.S. Embassy spokesman said no request had been received.

The Libyan Airlines Boeing 727 was due to fly back to Libya Thursday, carrying its original crew and all but one of the passengers, airport sources said.

The exception was an Italian who was expected to return to Italy.

## To avert price war

## Key oil ministers hold talks in Paris

PARIS, Feb. 24 (R) — Key oil ministers were meeting here Thursday as OPEC sought support from outside the exporter group to avert a threatened world oil price war.

Diplomatic sources said the energy minister of non-OPEC Mexico would take part in informal talks with his counterparts from Venezuela, Kuwait and Algeria.

The discussions are in advance of a proposed emergency meeting of the organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, aimed at agreeing on a controlled cut in OPEC's benchmark price of \$34 a barrel.

There were also indications that the 13-member OPEC was trying to bring the main North Sea producer, Britain, into the price negotiations. Informed sources said delegations from Venezuela and Mexico were in London Thursday for meetings with British officials but could give no further details.

Britain triggered off the present oil price crisis when its state oil trading company last week recommended a \$3 cut in the price of North Sea oil.

Norway matched the cut and non-OPEC Nigeria trimmed \$5.50 off its official price to bring it into line with the new North Sea levels.

Oil ministers meeting in Riyadh Wednesday decided in principle to cut their \$34 price in response to the Nigerian move.

But the size of the cut will depend on whether an OPEC-wide agreement can be reached at a meeting next week in Vienna or Geneva. Thursday's surprise arrivals in the French capital came the day before Mexico, currently producing about three million barrels a day, was due to announce a price cut.

A highly placed source in Riyadh said late Wednesday night the Mexicans who had agreed to cooperate with the Gulf countries following secret contacts.

The official Saudi press agency quoted United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mana Said Al-Oteibi as saying contact would also be made with North Sea producers on co-ordinating policy.

Mexico and the North Sea producers, helped by lower prices, produce some six million barrels a day compared with about \$15 million a day from the crisis-hit OPEC states.

Venezuelan diplomats said their oil minister, Humberto Calderon Berti, planned bilateral talks here with all delegations.

## Lebanon, Israel end discussions

KHALDE, Feb. 24 (AP) — The United States, Israel and Lebanon concluded their 18th session of troop withdrawal talks at this seaside resort Thursday.

Israeli and Lebanese spokesmen gave varying assessments of the outcome of three and-a-half-hour deliberations on security arrangements, mutual relations and termination of the 34-year-old state of war between Lebanon and Israel.

"It can be said the negotiations were conducted in a positive spirit, with the American side helping to surmount obstacles arising from basic positions of the two other sides," said Lebanese spokesman Daoud Sayegh.

"The subcommittee for terminating the state of war had a detailed discussion of important clauses proposed by the Lebanese side," Sayegh continued. "The subcommittee for withdrawal and security arrangements discussed in depth some aspects of the security arrangements, but there still are differences in the basic positions and on details."

Sayegh did not spell out the details of the Lebanese proposal on ending the state of war.

Both Sayegh and Israeli spokesman Yusef Amihud said the next session would be held at the Lebanon Beach Hotel in suburban Khalde, 12 kilometers south of Beirut Tuesday.

including that led by Kuwait's Sheikh Ali Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah who was at the Riyadh talks.

In Quito, Ecuadorian oil ministry sources said Wednesday that OPEC member Ecuador had already joined Venezuela and Mexico in agreeing to avoid competitive price cuts.

Indonesian Oil Minister Dr. Subroto said in Jakarta that his country had been holding intensive consultations with other OPEC members to make sure the next OPEC meeting did not fail.

The main spotlight now is likely to be on Iran, Nigeria and Britain. A Tokyo report, on which Iranian officials had no immediate comment, said Iran planned to cut its prices between \$2 and \$3 below any reduction in the \$34 a barrel price of Saudi Arabia's Arab light, the current OPEC marker crude.

Oil industry sources gave credence to the report by the Kyodo News Agency on the grounds that Iran was already offering substantial discounts and would have to cut prices further to maintain its market share.

British Energy Department sources said Energy Secretary Nigel Lawson had no meeting planned with delegations from other oil-producing countries and would not be traveling to Paris.

British policy is to produce at maximum capacity and sell its oil at prices dictated by the market.

## Lagos spells out terms

LAGOS, Feb. 24 (R) — Nigeria is willing to attend an OPEC meeting aimed at preventing an oil price-cutting war provided it has assurances of cooperation from North Sea producers and Mexico, official sources said Thursday.

But they said Nigeria's new oil pricing policy following its \$5.50 a barrel cut last weekend — the first public breach of the pricing rules of OPEC — was on a parity with North Sea producers, also non-OPEC members.

Unless there were assurances that Britain and Norway would coordinate their price and production levels with OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), there would be little point in Nigeria attending a possible OPEC meeting next week, they said.

Nigeria's presidential adviser on petroleum and energy, Yahaya Dikko, has called for talks on such coordination between OPEC and non-OPEC producers.

"The restoration of stability and defense of crude oil markets is a responsibility for both OPEC and non-OPEC producers alike," he said. "Both groups stand to gain by responsible action."

## Kuwait signs deal for new Mirages

KUWAIT, Feb. 24 (AP) — Kuwait signed a contract for the purchase of an unspecified number of the latest-type French-made Mirage warplanes, it was announced officially here Thursday.

A Defense Ministry statement said the contract was signed by Defense Minister Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah as part of Kuwait's plan to modernize its armed forces.

Earlier press reports said Kuwait was planning to buy the latest Mirage 2000 war jet. The French-made Mirages and Gazelle helicopters together with U.S.-made Skyhawk jets and Hawk anti-aircraft missiles form the backbone of Kuwait's air defense.

## American-Soviet missile parleys grounded -- Gromyko

MOSCOW, Feb. 24 (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko said U.S.-Soviet missile talks were deadlocked. But he expressed optimism that an agreement could be reached if Washington showed flexibility in its bargaining position.

Gromyko said Wednesday in an interview in the Communist Party daily *Pravda* that movement toward curbing the nuclear arms race had halted and Reagan was to blame.

"The USA is after military superiority at any price — this line is not designed to achieve agreement," he said.

The veteran Soviet foreign minister outlined the stated positions of Moscow and Washington in Geneva talks on medium-range missiles in Europe and said there had been no progress. But when asked if the negotiations could produce concrete results, he said such a possibility existed.

"We are for an agreement in accordance with the principles of parity and equal security," he said. He added that the ball was now in the court of the Reagan administration.

In the Geneva talks, the United States has stood firm on the zero option, which offered to scrap plans to deploy 572 U.S. Pershing-2 and Cruise nuclear missiles if the Soviet Union dismantled all its 600-plus comparable weapons.

But there have been signs that Washington may be ready to compromise, President Reagan has been quoted as saying that his country did not have "a take-it-or-leave-it approach."

In the interview, appearing in Thursday's *Pravda*, Gromyko said the United States' stance was aimed at gaining military superiority.

"This position is lopsided, egoistic and filled with the spirit of excessive imperial ambitions," he said.

"The sooner the U.S. administration understands ... that



Ronald Reagan



Andrei Gromyko

agreement on nuclear arms limitations and reductions is needed by the United States no less than by the Soviet Union, the more it will be possible to make rapid headway in resolving these questions."

Soviet leader Yuri Andropov has offered to reduce Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe to 162 — the number of French and British rockets if the deployment of Cruise and Pershing missiles was canceled. Gromyko said people in Western Europe were under the influence of propaganda regarding the Soviet policies and warned the Geneva talks would be undercut by the NATO deployment.

"It is clear who is looking for accords and who is conducting negotiations for appearances sake," he said. Referring to

reports that Washington might accept some interim solution in the Geneva talks, he said: "One has so far failed to perceive any headway toward greater realism."

"Everything gets back to the original posture — which is to implement, one way or another, the NATO plan and to railroad new U.S. missiles into Western Europe," he said, adding that NATO and the United States had put forward no proposals meeting the principles of equality.

Tass, the official news agency, reacting to Reagan's speech the day before, ignored the American leader's expressed flexibility to find a new solution in the medium-range missile negotiations.

Speaking to the American veterans group Tuesday, Reagan said his zero-option position was not inflexible and that he had "a deep personal commitment" to finding a means of reducing medium-range weapons.

Tass, the official Soviet news agency, said this of Reagan's nuclear stand: "This speech has once again shown that the United States does not intend to take a constructive stand at the Soviet-American arms control talks, and press ahead at them for mutually acceptable agreements. Unfoundedly speculating on a striving for a reduction of arms, Reagan categorically rejected the Soviet Union's constructive proposals," Tass said.

Meanwhile, British Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine said Wednesday the Warsaw Pact posed a big threat to the West and described the campaign for unilateral nuclear disarmament as almost unbelievably naive.

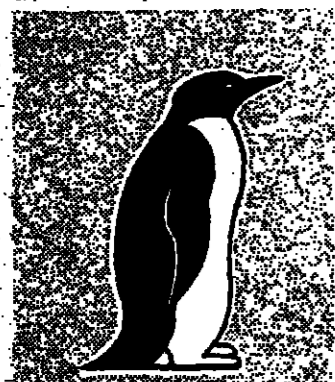
Speaking at the end of a two-day familiarization tour of British military bases in West Germany, Heseltine said that the Soviet Union was advancing by leaps in its development of new weaponry.

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## Korean student group concludes 10-day tour

By Suresh Shah  
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, Feb. 24 — A Korean student delegation, which arrived in the Kingdom on Feb. 14 at the invitation of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare, was due to return home Thursday evening after a 10-day visit.

The 33-member team, the second of its kind under the exchange of youth program between Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Korea, visited the Kingdom in response to the Saudi Arabian student mission's tour of Korea last year.

The team started its tour in Dhahran by meeting Koreans working in the Kingdom and visiting Aramco, the Petroleum Exhibition, the University of Petroleum and Minerals, Alkhobar, Jubail and its sport facilities.

During their three-day stay in Riyadh, the students visited the national museum, some dairy projects and springs at Al-Kharj city, the Ministry of Planning and the General Presidency of Youth Welfare. In the Southern province they visited the information center and tourist areas in Abha and Khamis Mushiat, before coming to Jeddah on Tuesday, where they inspected the Mercedes factory and the water desalination plant.



**KOREAN STUDENT MISSION:** A 33-member team of Korean students visited the Kingdom during the last leg of its 10-day tour of the Kingdom at the invitation of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare. Korean Ambassador to the Kingdom Kwang Soo Choi, second from right, and Minister Sun-Sup Chang, extreme right, received chief team leader Sung Ki Hoon, fourth from left, and others. President of Youth Welfare Social Activities and Camps Department-in-charge Fahad Al Dubaiban is seen second from left.

The chief delegation leader and representative of the Korean Ministry of Education Sung Ki Hoon told *Arab News* they were very much impressed by the rapid development in all fields and the great hospitality of the people and their love for peace.

He said in Riyadh they had meetings with Youth Welfare President Prince Faisal bin Fahd, and Director of the Ministry of Planning Muhammad Fayez. "Prince Faisal emphasized the great role that will be played by the youths in the future of the world and expressed the hope that such exchange of visits will increase understanding and strengthen further the existing good relations between the two countries," Hoon said.

Fahad Al Dubaiban, who is responsible for the General Presidency's Social Activities and Camp Department, said they arrange exchange of youths program with Arab, Muslim and friendly countries. "Last year five student delegations from the Kingdom visited Japan, Singapore, Korea, Malaysia and Kenya and the program for this summer is under consideration," he said. "A 14-member Japanese team arrived four months ago and a seven-member student mission is expected to arrive here in April," Al Dubaiban added.



**LARGE RECEPTION:** Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz, president of the Arab Student Aid International (ASAI), attended a reception at the Hyatt Regency in Jeddah Wednesday to mark the conclusion of the meetings of the Executive Committee of the ASAI Board of Trustees. The meetings were presided over by Prince Turki. In a speech outlining the ASAI's objectives, Prince Turki said the ASAI is confidently and rapidly proceeding toward helping Arab students and laying new foundations for serving Arab development programs.

## Sino-Saudi cultural committee session scheduled for March 12

RIYADH, Feb. 24 (SPA) — The fifth session of the Sino-Saudi Joint Committee on Cultural Cooperation will be held in Saudi Arabia on March 12, it was reported here Wednesday.

The Republic of China's Central News Agency (CNA) said in a dispatch from Taipei that the Chinese delegation would be headed by Deputy Education Minister Li Mo.

The committee is expected to review the implementation of cultural cooperation programs and prospects of new projects between the two countries.

The agency said the seventh session of the Sino-Saudi permanent committee on

## Ancient artifacts found near Dhahran

DHAHRAN, Feb. 24 — Pharaonic hieroglyphic scriptures dating back to the Ramses era, 3400 B.C., have been discovered south of here, *Al-Riyadh* reported.

The discovery, made for the first time in the Arabian peninsula, was made at a circular cemetery dating back 5,000 years by an expert team from the Department of Archaeology and Museums, according to Dr. Abdullah Al-Masri, assistant education undersecretary for cultural affairs and head of the department.

Tombs in this area, east of the Arabian peninsula, which number about 1,000, are covered by stones and big heaps of sand which make them resemble sand dunes. At a village called Saqqa, southeast of Al-Dawadmi area (450 kilometers northwest of Riyadh), several thousand stone tools dating back to the middle Assyrian era have also been discovered in the course of excavations. The team, conducting a survey there, noticed that the tools were found along the coast of the old Wadi Sahiq where the site of what appears to have been old waterfalls was also traced.

## Museum tender invited

DAMMAM, Feb. 24 — The Education Ministry has launched a tender for the construction of archaeological museums in the Eastern Province and Ahsa. *Al-Madinah* reported. The museum, to be built in Hofuf, near the education department, off Qatar road. It will comprise sections for the area's Islamic heritage and civilization, antique felices, old crafts and cultural environment.

economic and technical cooperation was scheduled to be held in Taipei on May 19.

It added that Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba Al-Khail was expected to lead the Kingdom's delegation. The two countries will discuss ways of strengthening cooperation in the fields of agriculture, industry, electricity and health.

## King attends school opening

RIYADH, Feb. 24 (SPA) — King Fahd attended ceremonies Wednesday marking the opening of the Riyadh schools' new premises in Nasriyeh quarter.

The king's participation was part of his moves to encourage education in the country. Others present included Crown Prince Abdullah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, the second deputy premier and defense and aviation minister, princes, ministers, high-ranking officials, and a large crowd.

## 'Week of National Industry' postponed until next year

RIYADH, Feb. 24 — It has been decided to postpone the Week of National Industry until next year, *Al-Madinah* reported Thursday. Dr. Ghazi Al-Gosaibi, the minister of industry and electricity, told newsmen after a meeting in his office of the committee entrusted with the preparations that the festival, which was due to be held from May 14-21 will now be held next January.

The minister said that the festival will comprise industrial exhibitions here, in Jeddah and in Dammam, as well as in other areas. In the meantime, the information coverage will be intensified, local newspaper-

ers will issue supplements and magazines will publish special issues on the Week of National Industry.

Dr. Al-Gosaibi said that there will also be cultural contests, presents to the Kingdom's philanthropic societies, and radio and television programs for the event.

The meeting was attended by Ismail Abu Daoud, the head of the board of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry; Ibrahim Al-Toqi, vice president of the Riyadh Chamber of Commerce; Abdul Aziz Al-Zamel, vice president of the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation, and other officials.

## Chatti reaffirms OIC's support for independent Palestinian state

JEDDAH, Feb. 24 (SPA) — Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretary-General Habib Chatti has reaffirmed the member states' support for the Palestinian people's struggle to recover their usurped land and establish an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

In a cable to Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat congratulating him on his re-election as the organization's executive committee chairman, Chatti also expressed support for the Palestine National Council's (PNC) call for strengthening cooperation with Islamic countries.

He said the meetings held by the PNC in

Algiers, and concluded Tuesday had stressed to the whole world the Palestinians' independent stand, adding that resolutions adopted by the council were characterized by positiveness and far-sightedness.

Meanwhile, Chatti has received a written message from Mali President Gen. Moussa Traore. The message was delivered by the president's special envoy, Gen. Mador Baba Reyar.

Chatti said that Gen. Traore thanked the OIC for its efforts in helping Mali and other countries of the African Sahel region affected by drought.

## E. Province center to combat diarrhea

DAMMAM, Feb. 24 (SPA) — The Ministry of Health is currently hard at work establishing a large center to combat diarrhea in the Eastern Province, the supervisor of health affairs in the region, Dr. Abdul-Rahman Al-Sowaleh, said here.

"The center, in collaboration with the International Center for Combating Diarrhea in Bangladesh, conducts field research studies to determine the spread of the disease, its causes and the best means to eradicate it," he said.

The ministry has also prepared well-equipped small mobile hospitals in crowded areas, to extend emergency treatment, he

## 145 trainees graduate in airport operations

JEDDAH, Feb. 24 (SPA) — Some 145 trainees in international airport operations have graduated after attending courses in practical work and English language.

The director general of the training center said there were still about 400 persons undergoing training in computer work, general mechanics and communications. Fifty other trainees will graduate in three months time, he added.

The graduation ceremony was attended by a number of civil aviation officials and executives at the King Abdul Aziz Airport.

## Fund for Mina projects

JEDDAH, Feb. 24 (SPA) — A sum of SR85 million (nearly \$24 million) has been allocated to implement a number of projects in Mina, near the holy city of Makkah.

The projects include a new water network and an electricity project in Sio'abin and Crabs areas.

The Mina development project's Director General Abdul Aziz Ghannouda said that 5,000 toilets would be built as part of a plan to have a total of 20,000 toilets.

## 13 mosques contracted

DAMMAM, Feb. 24 (SPA) — The Pilgrimage Affairs and Islamic Endowment Ministry has awarded contracts worth over SR1.4 million (nearly \$3 million) to build 13 mosques in the Eastern Province. Seif Ibrahim Al-Saif, director of endowments and mosques in the province, said here.

## BRIEFS

The King Abdul Aziz Naval Base in Jubail. The delegation arrived here from Tabuk after inspecting an armored corps training center and a parachute school.

**Indian telex service**  
JEDDAH — A direct telex service between here and Bombay went into operation recently, according to Jeddah Telegraph Director Mahmoud Abdul Malek Mirdad. He told *Al-Madinah* that an average 450 direct cables were exchanged daily, adding that officials expect the number of telex messages to rise to 18,000 per month in the near future.

**Bill payment system**  
JEDDAH — The United Electricity Company in the Western Province has introduced a system whereby subscribers can settle their bills at banks. *Al-Madinah* reported. All that the subscriber has to do is fill in a form, giving his bank account number. The company will then send the bills regularly to the bank and retrieve the amount from their balance.

## Ministerial officials meet

RIYADH (SPA) — Dr. Akram Nashat, secretary of the Arab Interior Ministers Council has met here with Saudi Interior Minister and the council's honorary president, Prince Naif bin Abdul Aziz. He briefed Prince Naif on the measures being undertaken by the council's secretariat to build its headquarters in Tunis and the implementation of resolutions adopted by the council at its first meeting held in Casablanca in December.

The talks also covered preparations under way for the upcoming second meeting of the council, due to take place in Baghdad at the end of the current year. Dr. Nashat praised the Kingdom's support for the secretariat and highlighted Prince Naif's significant role in setting up the council.

## Kuwaiti tour

DHAHRAN (SPA) — A Kuwaiti military delegation has inspected the King Abdul Aziz Air Base here as part of a tour of the Kingdom. The team also visited the Technical Studies Institute in Dhahran and

## Prayer Times

	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Friday						
Fajr (Dawn)	5:20	5:23	4:55	4:43	5:07	5:39
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:34	12:35	12:06	11:53	12:17	12:47
Asr (Afternoon)	3:54	3:54	3:25	3:11	3:35	4:04
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:24	6:22	5:54	5:39	6:04	6:32
Isha (Night)	7:54	7:53	7:24	7:09	7:34	8:02

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## Ties based on equality

# Pakistan denies deal on U.S. bases

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP) — Pakistan's ambassador to the United States said his country has made no deal for U.S. bases or missile facilities on its territory in exchange for a five-year \$3.6 billion aid program. Eliaz Azim said Wednesday he categorically denied speculation that there had been a "quid pro quo" on the economic and military aid package.

The U.S. and Pakistan are agreed that Pakistan's ability to defend its territory "is in itself a more than sufficient return" for the U.S. program, he said, and added that neither country wanted a military alliance. He said Pakistan envisages a new relationship with the United States based on sovereign equality and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The ambassador said any steps the two countries may take in pursuit of their mutual interests "would not affect the status of Pakistan (a nonaligned country) or threaten

in any manner the legitimate interests of any third country" in the region.

Referring to advanced military weapons it has ordered from the United States, Azim asserted that "Pakistan is not in competition with India because we recognize that we just cannot compete with India. Our acquisition of arms is essentially in the nature of replacement of our obsolete equipment."

Azim indicated that the U.S. weapons and two squadrons of F-16 warplanes being shipped over a period of 5 to 6 years cannot affect "the overwhelming military advantage enjoyed by India." He rejected reports that U.S. arms to Pakistan will heighten tension in the area. "Pakistan is in no position to pose a military threat to India," he said.

Any Pakistan military adventure against India, he said, would be "sheer folly." Azim addressed members of the International Club, a private organization whose members

are interested in international affairs.

He said that while "Pakistan has no dispute with the Soviet Union and wishes to develop friendly relations with it," the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan is a threat to Pakistan security and also has to be condemned as a violation of Afghan sovereignty and independence. He said Pakistan enjoys "excellent relations" with China.

Asked when Pakistan will hold national elections, Azim said President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq has announced he will issue a program before August 14 for the peaceful transfer of power which will include the holding of elections.

Referring to the U.S. State Department's criticism of Pakistan in its latest human rights report, Azim suggested that Americans would get "the right perception" if they looked at Pakistani problems with Pakistani eyes and not with American eyes.

## Soares sees change in PLO stand

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP) — Portuguese Socialist leader Mario Soares confirmed telling U.S. officials he believes the Palestine Liberation Organization is prepared to accept Israel's right to exist.

Soares, who spent two days here conferring with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and other officials, told a news conference Wednesday night, "there is an opening on the part of (PLO leader) Yasser Arafat which to me seems quite obvious." "I think there is implicit in the whole activity of Arafat in recent times recognition of the state of Israel."

Soares outlined to officials here his activities over the past few weeks as head of a Socialist International Middle East peace mission.

He said one key to peace in the Middle East is mutual recognition of Israel by the PLO and Arab states and of the PLO by Israel.

The peace process also turns on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon and on whether Jordan can integrate itself into the peace process accompanied by Palestinians who are acceptable to the PLO, he said.

## Gunbattle shakes Tripoli

TRIPOLI, Lebanon, Feb. 24 (R) — Three hours of gunbattles shook the north Lebanese city of Tripoli Wednesday, one of the most serious outbreaks of violence there since 250 persons died in weeks of fighting in December and January.

It was not known whether anybody had been hurt as the two sides fought with machine guns and rocket propelled grenades.

## Iraq seeks stronger ties with Egypt

BAGHDAD, Feb. 24 (R) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has said cooperation between Iraq and Egypt should develop but resumption of diplomatic relations will depend on the Arab League.

In an interview with Reuters Wednesday night, Aziz was asked about Iraqi links with Egypt and Iraq's attitude to current moves to try to resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute.

He said the question of breaking off diplomatic relations with Egypt, after its 1979 peace treaty with Israel, was "a decision taken by an Arab League meeting. Iraq will always respect the decisions of the Arab League, especially of meetings in which Iraq participated. We will not abrogate any Arab League decisions."

But he said: "We do not think diplomatic relations is the only way to create confidence with a certain country. It is necessary that cooperation between Iraq and Egypt should develop." "We should cooperate to face the present Iranian danger to Iraq and the Gulf and the Israeli danger against Lebanon and other countries. The Egyptian leadership has shown interest in such a policy."

On Arab-Israeli peace moves, Aziz said: "We supported the decisions that were made in Fez (at the Arab summit last September) because the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) supported those decisions. All the Arab League members present, including Syria, supported them." Iraq, he said, was always ready to assist Arab countries and the PLO to regain Arab rights and occupied Arab lands.

"We have made a positive effort to encourage stronger relations between Jordan and the Palestinians. We have excellent relations with both parties. We think this is in the interest of both and of the Arab world — it would be damaging if they stood apart," Aziz said.

## Reagan renews pullout appeal

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (Agencies) — President Reagan appealed again Wednesday for a speedy withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon and said he believed delaying the departure of Israeli forces until an Israel-Lebanon peace treaty was signed would be wrong.

He reiterated an offer he made Tuesday for the United States to guarantee the security of Israel's borders with Lebanon but told reporters he believed there was nothing particularly new in this proposal which was rejected by the Israeli cabinet Wednesday.

"We believe that the time is now," Reagan said in making his appeal for Israel, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization to withdraw their troops and leave the Lebanese in control. "There is a feeling on the part of everyone there that peace is the answer to the problems in the Middle East," he told a group of reporters.

## EPLF claims killing 150 Ethiopians

NAIROBI, Feb. 24 (R) — Freedom fighters of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front (EPLF) killed 150 Ethiopian government troops during battles in Eritrea Tuesday and on Monday, Somali radio quoted an EPLF spokesman as saying.

The report from the Somali capital of Mogadishu, monitored here, said Ethiopian troops lost a large amount of equipment during the fighting. EPLF repulsed their attempts to penetrate into "liberated territory," it added.

The EPLF is thought to be the most powerful of several resistance groups that have

fought for Eritrean independence from Ethiopia, including from its current Marxist government, for over 20 years.

In another development Ethiopia has described recent U.S. military exercises in the Mediterranean and Red Sea as provocative war games and global terrorism.

In Addis Ababa a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday night that exercises such as this week's show of strength in the disputed Gulf of Sirte were "stepped-up acts of provocation and interference in the internal affairs of Libya."

## U.K., Jordan review Mideast issue

LONDON, Feb. 24 (AP) — Jordan's King Hussein met with British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym at the Foreign Office Wednesday, but Pym said afterward it was too early for any discussion of this week's PLO summit in Algiers.

Speaking with reporters, Pym said the session with Hussein, which followed the king's meeting with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher earlier in the week, was "a good opportunity to exchange views at an important time in Middle East affairs."

But he added, "it was too soon to draw conclusions on the outcome of the meeting of

the Palestine National Council, which finished in Algiers yesterday."

The council rejected U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan for giving the Palestinian people self-rule in a homeland confederated with Jordan. But it appeared to leave open the possibility of cooperating with Hussein in peace talks.

Foreign Office officials, who asked not to be identified, said Britain has been told that an Arab League delegation due to visit London next month hopes to have talks with Mrs. Thatcher and Pym on March 18.

The delegation, to be led by King Hassan of Morocco, is to contain senior foreign ministers from the Arab world and a Palestinian representative acceptable to Britain, the sources said.

## Hussein invites Gemayel

BEIRUT, Feb. 24 (AP) — Jordan's Foreign Minister Marwan Kassem arrived here Thursday and said he was carrying an invitation from King Hussein to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to visit Jordan. Kassem told reporters at Beirut airport he brought a message from the Jordanian king dealing with the Arab-Israeli Middle East conflict.

## Kabul rules out peace talks

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 24 (AP) — Kabul's Marxist government ruled out "ever" negotiating with Afghan resistance leaders in talks aimed at finding a political solution to the Afghan crisis.

Radio Kabul described as "baseless" recent reports by the Western media that it had agreed to talk with resistance leaders based in the Pakistan frontier town of Peshawar. The state-run radio, in a broadcast monitored in Islamabad, said Wednesday the "government of Afghanistan in no way will ever agree to this."

The broadcast, quoting an unidentified Foreign Ministry spokesman, said it made no such agreement during the recent visit of Diego Cordovez, the United Nations special

negotiator on Afghanistan.

Last month Cordovez paid visits to Tehran, Islamabad and Kabul in an effort to get the three parties together for indirect talks in Geneva. A meeting in Geneva involving Pakistan and the Kabul regime is slated for mid-April. Tehran insists it cannot be a party to such talks until Soviet troops withdraw unconditionally from Afghanistan.

An estimated 85,000 Soviet combat troops marched into Afghanistan in late 1979 to quell a movement against the Soviet-backed government. Western military analysts here estimate there are now 105,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan. A recent Radio Kabul broadcast acknowledged that fighting continues to rage in at least 16 of the landlocked country's 29 provinces.

## Security Council ends Libya debate

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 24 (R) — The Security Council has ended a two-day debate on Libya's complaint of "provocative military actions" by the United States without adopting a resolution. Libyan Ambassador Ali Treiki was supported by most of nearly 30 Communist and Third World countries which took part. None of America's major Western allies spoke.

No resolution was introduced by the end of the debate Wednesday night because the United States would have vetoed any draft it found unacceptable. But Washington was criticized with varying degrees of rancor for its decision last week to send four AWACS radar planes to Egypt and to deploy the aircraft carrier *Nimitz* off the Libyan coast to counter what it said was a Libyan military buildup on the Sudanese border.

U.S. ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick rejected Libya's charges as "false and malicious" and said the Libyans had come to the council with "lying complaints" because their aggressive plans had been frustrated.

Apart from the United States, only Sudan adopted a firm anti-Libyan stance, saying the measures taken by Washington were necessary to foil Libyan border concentrations.

Egypt was more cautious, saying it was "fully committed to defend fraternal Sudan in response to its request" and expressing a hope that Libya would live up to its claims to be seeking peace and stability.

Soviet representative Oleg Troyanovsky, this month's council president and one of the last speakers, said Washington was unhappy that Libya was pursuing an independent foreign policy and did not want to accept an "unjust peace" imposed on the region by the United States and Israel.

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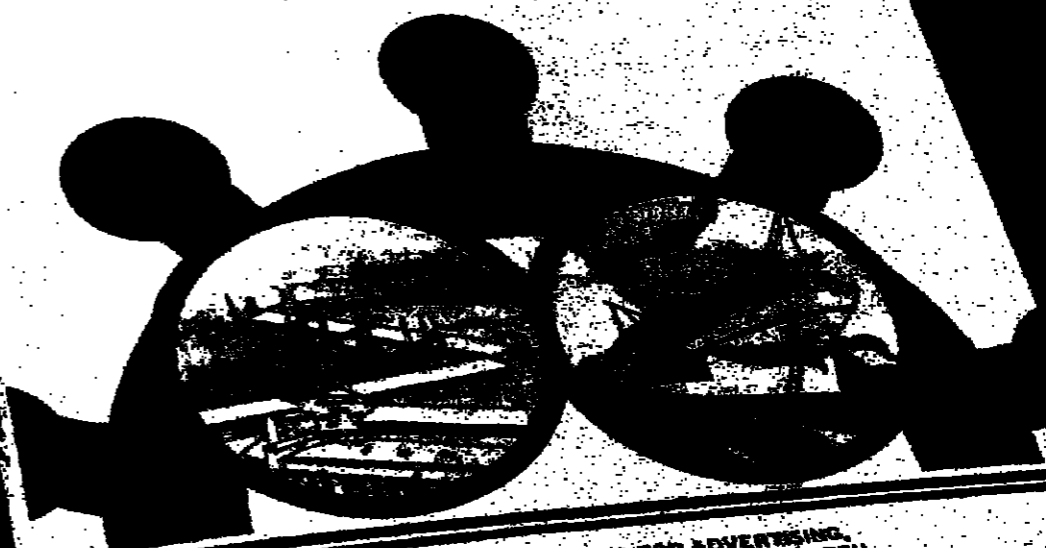
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## Covert U.K. teams fight Ulster rebels

LONDON, Feb. 24 (AP) — Guerrilla leader Eugene McMonagle, shot in the head by an undercover British intelligence officer in Northern Ireland, was the latest victim in a cloak-and-dagger war that is coming out of the shadows.

Police said McMonagle, 26, a senior Irish National Liberation Army activist, was shot when he attacked the undercover man in the staunchly Roman Catholic Shantallow district of Londonderry recently.

McMonagle's family alleges he was "cold-bloodedly murdered" by British Special Air Service (SAS) commandos who lured him into a trap in a covert war that has only occasionally surfaced in 13 years of street violence.

He was the ninth known or suspected Catholic guerrilla killed by troops or police, many in disputed circumstances, since October. Several others have been wounded.

Most of the victims were unarmed and shot by anti-terrorist teams, including special support units, the police equivalent of the army's SAS squads.

Police said most of the victims were shot crashing roadblocks or fleeing patrols but many in the province's Catholic minority, increasingly alienated from British rule, charge the British have adopted a "shoot to kill" policy against Nationalists.

James Prior, Britain's Northern Ireland Secretary, denied that. But he disclosed that police now are increasingly using covert teams to combat guerrillas fighting to end British rule in the province.

John Hume, leader of the moderate Catholic Social Democratic and Labor Party, branded the killings "legalized murder."

A Catholic bishop of Londonderry said they "give rise to deep suspicions that the rule of law is being abandoned by some sections of the security forces... and makes the path of those who are endeavoring to encourage moderation more difficult."

The security forces' aggressive new tactics have accelerated the deepening polarization between the province's one million pro-British Protestants and 500,000 Catholics, heightening alarm that it could provoke a new surge of sectarian violence.

The British moved in apparent response to two significant developments.

The IRA's political front, Sinn Fein, won five seats on Northern Ireland's 78-member provincial assembly Oct. 21. It was a

## India, Pakistan to sign accord

NEW DELHI, Feb. 24 (AFP) — India and Pakistan will sign a formal agreement next month setting up a joint commission to promote bilateral relations in various fields, it was officially announced here Thursday.

Junior foreign minister A.A. Rahim said in parliament that the signing would coincide with the March 7 New Delhi nonaligned summit which Pakistani President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq would attend.

Rahim said there would be talks on proposals from Pakistan for a no-war pact and from India for a comprehensive peace, friendship and cooperation treaty, following up similar talks held last December.

major breakthrough in which the movement, in its first election since fighting erupted in 1969, got one-third of the Catholic vote.

Sinn Fein plans to run in the next British general election. Political analysts say Sinn Fein could take three or four seats in the British Parliament, winning world-wide political recognition for the cause.

A deadly offensive by the INLA that threatened to trigger fresh sectarian bloodletting. More than 25 persons have been killed in the violence.

The offensive was bolstered by the defection to the INLA of scores of "Provo" hard-liners, who were disenchanted with the IRA's entry into the political arena. The INLA believes the only way to push the British out is by the bomb and bullet.

## Joshua Nkomo fails to get passport back

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, Feb. 24 (AP) — Police Wednesday refused to return opposition leader Joshua Nkomo's passport after seizing it and barring the former guerrilla chief from leaving Zimbabwe Saturday, Nkomo's lawyer said.

Meanwhile, Nkomo told the Associated Press that three aides who had been arrested with him at Bulawayo Airport have now been officially detained. It was not known if they faced formal charges.

"I will have to sit and think," the leader of Zimbabwe's minority Ndebele tribe said when asked about his next move.

A chief rival and outspoken critic of black Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, Nkomo has been grilled three times by police since they stopped him from boarding a flight for Johannesburg, South Africa.

His arrest and the seizure of his passport intensified the rivalry between this country's two main black nationalist leaders who spent more than a decade trying to overturn white-minority rule when the nation was called Rhodesia.

A year ago, Mugabe accused Nkomo of stockpiling arms and plotting a coup. The prime minister fired Nkomo from the cabinet, prompting numerous Ndebele tribesmen to bolt from the army and return to the bush with their arms.

Nkomo has condemned the armed attacks and kidnappings that have plagued Matabeleland, his political and tribal power base, in the year since he was fired.

But Nkomo apparently angered the government by announcing a North Korean-trained brigade of government troops, Shona tribesmen like Mugabe, had killed scores of women and children during recent sweeps in search of the dissidents.

Nkomo said he was on his way to Prague when he was arrested. He said he was to attend a planning session of the world peace conference. The government accused him of planning a speaking tour of white-minority-ruled South Africa to "spread lies" about Zimbabwe.



REBELS TAKE OVER: Two leftist guerrillas armed with U.S.-made M-16 rifles, attack the entrance to the town Tejutla, 45 miles north to San Salvador. Tejutla fell to the guerrillas Wednesday.

## Salvadoran town falls to guerrillas

TEJUTLA, El Salvador, Feb. 24 (AP) — Leftist guerrillas took control of this northern mountain town Wednesday for the second time this year after driving out a 160-man National Guard contingent, the rebels and local residents said.

To the south, government troops reclaimed the rebel-held road south of Suchitoto and traffic to the city 43 kilometers northeast of the capital resumed for the first time in two weeks, said sources in the city who were contacted by telephone.

Rebels attacked the town of 12,000 with automatic rifles, machine guns and grenade launchers before dawn Tuesday and controlled it by 4 p.m., guerrilla commanders said.

A guerrilla commander who identified himself as Felipe Barrera said two rebels were killed and five wounded in the fighting. At least one guardsman was killed. "many

wounded and seven captured. Barrera said.

Guerrillas control most of the province, but the government holds the provincial capital, Chalatenango. Most of the government's troops in the province are concentrated in the capital, one other town and at least five other small posts.

The takeover of Tejutla, 80 kilometers north of the capital, is considered a diversionary tactic to distract the government from its five-day-old counterinsurgency operation on Guazapa volcano, a guerrilla stronghold near the besieged town of Suchitoto, south of here. Tejutla was the last government outpost on the road to the border with Honduras.

Rebels said the takeover was aimed at getting arms and killing soldiers. The guerrillas were from the Popular Liberation Forces, the biggest of the five rebel

groups fighting to overthrow the U.S.-supported government. Its leaders are hard-line Marxist-Leninists who advocate a prolonged war to bring down the rightist government.

Spokesmen for the state-owned electrical company in Chalatenango said rebels attacked power lines, leaving more than 300,000 persons without electricity Wednesday for the second time in a week.

Meanwhile, a spokesman said the Red Cross was continuing its efforts to arrange for the release of an American and two Swedish journalists who are believed to be held by guerrillas. The three are Michael Lujan, 30, a freelance writer who writes for *The Dallas Morning News*, Jens Rydstrom and Tom Thulin, who work for *Ny Das*, a Swedish publication.

## BRIEFS

LONDON (AFP) — A total of 117 kilograms of cyanide, enough to kill half a million people, was stolen last week from a plant at Bilston, central England, it was learned Wednesday. The thieves took the cyanide, coming in matchbox-size tablets, inside three demijohns, along with 10 sacks of caustic soda and 50 kg of a toxic stain remover. A quarter of a gram of cyanide is enough to kill a human being.

MUNICH (R) — West Germany's first heart and lungs transplant patient died Wednesday from liver and kidney failure, a university clinic spokesman here reported. Motor mechanic Kurt Stiegele, 27, had the double transplant surgery 10 days ago and two subsequent operations to seal perforation in his new lungs. The spokesman said his liver and kidneys proved incapable of coping with the drugs given him after the operation.

ATHENS (AFP) — Five persons, including 23 were missing Thursday after a ferry sank Wednesday night off Euboea, the Merchant Navy Ministry announced.

WASHINGTON (R) — Former Florida Governor Reubin Askew Wednesday became the fourth formal candidate for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination, pledging to unite Americans in prosperity and peace.

## British group tops pop chart

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 (AP) — Britain's Culture Club knocked the Australian group Men at Work out of its long reign at the top of the U.S. single pop record charts in the United States.

Culture Club's "Do you Really Want to Hurt Me" soared into the No. 1 spot in the *Cashbox* magazine chart from fifth place a week ago. Men at Work's "Down Under" moved down to second after five weeks in a row at No. 1.

"Stray Cat Strut" by the Stray Cats hopped up one notch to third. Patti Austin's "Baby, Come to Me" slipped from second to sixth, and "Africa" by the group Toto toppled from third to ninth. The week's only newcomer to the top ten list was "All Right" by Christopher Cross, up from 11th to 10th.

The ten top pop singles, as rated by *Cashbox*, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (5) Do you Really Want to Hurt Me — Culture Club
2. (1) Down Under — Men at Work
3. (4) Stray cat Strut — Stray Cats
4. (7) Billy Jean — Michael Jackson
5. (6) Shame on the Moon — Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band
6. (2) Baby, Come to Me — Patti Austin
7. (8) You Are — Lionel Richie
8. (9) Hungry Like the Wolf — Duran Duran
9. (3) Africa — Toto
10. (11) All Right — Christopher Cross

The ten top country-western singles, as rated by *Cashbox*, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (5) If Hollywood Don't Need You — Don Williams
2. (2) Fakin' Love — T.G. Sheppard and Karen Brooks
3. (1) Why Baby Why — Charley Pride
4. (5) Last Thing I Needed First Thing This Morning — Willie Nelson
5. (7) The Rose — Conway Twitty
6. (8) Still Talking Chances — Michael Murphy
7. (10) I Wouldn't Change You if I Could — Ricky Skaggs
8. (8) Somebody's Always Saying Good-bye — Anne Murray
9. (9) Velvet Chains — Gary Morris
10. (12) Everything's Beautiful — Dolly Parton and Willie Nelson

In Britain, "Too Shy" by the new British band Kajagoogoo, moved up two places to take over the No. 1 spot this week among top 10 best-selling records. It replaced "Change" by Tears for Fears, which slipped to No. 2 after only one week at the top.

One of the classic top 10 discs was Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," which moved up five places to No. 3 and looked destined for the top.

This week's top 10 as listed by *Melody Maker*, with last week's placings in brackets:

1. (3) Too Shy — Kajagoogoo
2. (1) Change — Tears for Fears
3. (9) Velvet Chains — Gary Morris
4. (12) Everything's Beautiful — Dolly Parton and Willie Nelson
5. (4) Sign of the Times — Bellstars
6. (2) Down Under — Men at Work
7. (5) Up Where We Belong — Joe Cocker and Jennifer Warnes
8. (11) Christian — China Crisis
9. (9) Wham Rap — Wham
10. (17) Love on Your Side — Thompson Twins

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## Due to 3rd World debts

# World Bank denies fiscal crisis

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP) — The World Bank affirmed Thursday that "there is no generalized debt crisis" in the Third World, and that their money troubles "pose no threat to the stability of international financial intermediation" mainly because of aid from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to the biggest debtors. Communities in difficulty must be prepared for "major sacrifices and growth so low that it was unacceptable for more than a very short period of stabilization," it said.

It continued: "Some respite is promised by a mild recovery of growth in industrial countries and in world trade ... for most of these countries another year of poor growth is probable."

The World Bank refuted the argument that banks had been lending "imprudently" to the third world which had "borrowed excessively" and "squandered the process."

The external debt expansion had slowed

for the 101 Third World nations in the World Bank. The rise had reached as much as 21 to 24 percent at one point but in 1981 it was 14 percent and would probably turn out to be some 15 percent last year.

At the end of this year their debts would be more than \$600 billion against \$530 billion at the end of last year.

On the other hand debt servicing costs had risen sharply due to high interest rates. For the 101 countries, this cost jumped 70 percent between 1978 and 1981 to reach \$83 billion.

Net transfers to the 101 countries through foreign bond issues ceased to rise in 1978. In 1981 they were a nominal 18 percent below the previous highest levels.

Meanwhile, the bank announced it will speed up its lending by \$2 billion over the next two years.

Brazil and Mexico will be among the main beneficiaries, according to Ernest Stern, senior vice president for operations. They are in deep trouble over their heavy borrowing from commercial banks.

Stern added that there will also be significant help to Thailand, the Philippines and South Korea. These are all countries which have been rapidly increasing their standards of living in recent years. The poorest countries, which get long-term loans without interest, will not receive much additional help.

Bank officials explained the speedup will require no increase in the bank's new loans, due to reach over \$14 billion this year. But beginning with the fiscal year starting July 1, there will be sharp increases in the pace of pay-outs. Over the two-year period, net transfers to poor countries are expected to rise by nearly 25 percent.

To provide money for the speedup, the bank will increase its own borrowing to about \$31.8 billion from the previously planned \$30.2 billion. "The action program, by itself, will not solve all the problems of countries in difficulties, but it is an important supplement to the assistance being provided by other agencies and governments," the bank said in its announcement.

## Madrid takes over Rumasa

MADRID, Feb. 24 (R) — Spain's Socialist government has decided to take over 18 banks and other property of Rumasa, the country's largest holding company, in a surprise move which prompted an unprecedented three-day closure of banks.

The announcement was made shortly before midnight in a live television broadcast from the government palace, where the cabinet had held its regular Wednesday meeting.

Police surrounded the central Madrid Rumasa headquarters early Thursday as executives and hundreds of employees tried to reach the building.

Announcing the takeover, government spokesman Eduardo Sotillos said: "The government has taken this decision in order to fully guarantee the banks' deposits, jobs and shareholders' rights."

He did not specify whether the expropriation decree would cover the 400-odd companies controlled by the group which accounts for 1.8 percent of Spain's gross domestic product.

Banking sources said the authorities were concerned about the degree of involvement of the Rumasa banks, the country's eighth largest banking group, in the company's

aggressive industrial and commercial expansion.

The controversy broke into the open last Friday when Economy Minister Miguel Boyer told reporters that if Rumasa interrupted an audit undertaken by Arthur Andersen Company, he would send in the Bank of Spain's inspectors.

Rumasa President Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos responded by calling a news conference on Tuesday to say that the group had no solvency problems and that an artificial climate of tension had been created by Boyer's remarks.

Ruiz Mateos said the audit, which the company was not obliged to undertake under Spanish law, had faced working difficulties and he accused the guarantee fund of exerting undue pressure for it to be completed within four months.

Ruiz Mateos said about one billion pesetas (\$7.7 million) of the bank's total deposits of \$18 billion (\$4.8 billion) had been withdrawn after Boyer's remarks, an amount he called insignificant and a demonstration of public support for his company.

The government spokesman said the expropriation was in accordance with article 33.3 of the constitution, which states that "no one will be deprived of his property and rights except for a justified cause of public welfare or social interest, with the corresponding compensation and according to the law."

## U.S. arms sales jump to \$21.4b

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP) — U.S. arms sales abroad have reached an unprecedented level, jumping from \$8.1 billion in fiscal 1981 to \$21.4 billion in 1982, the chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee has said.

Democrat Clement J. Zablocki spoke at a hearing of the panel's subcommittee on international security and scientific affairs on a resolution seeking to curtail conventional arms sales.

Zablocki told the bill's author, Democrat Tony Hall, he agreed with the idea of reducing such sales, but added: "We're not going to do it by passing resolutions." "We have to start on the ground," replied Hall, a former member of the foreign affairs committee. Hall said President Ronald Reagan should make a bold step toward slowing down the "global conventional arms race."

## Venezuelans cool to exchange curbs

CARACAS, Feb. 24 (AP) — Venezuelans reacted calmly to the government's announcement that it was introducing exchange controls following its suspension last Sunday of all trading in foreign currency. The government announced overnight that the suspension would continue until the end of this week and that it would reveal selective exchange rates over the next few days.

The government's move followed a massive outflow of dollars in recent weeks which threatened to exhaust the foreign currency reserves of the central bank.

The government of president Luis Herrera Campins preferred selective controls to a devaluation of the currency because it believed that such a move would lead to a rapid increase in the cost of living, analysts said.

## U.S. files suit against top airline

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP) — The U.S. government filed a law suit Wednesday against American Airlines, charging that the president of the fourth largest U.S. air carrier told the head of Braniff Airways to raise his fares 20 percent and "I'll raise mine the next morning."

American's president, Robert L. Crandall, also was charged in an indictment which purportedly quoted verbatim a telephone conversation sprinkled with profanity.

The civil suit asks that a federal court prohibit Crandall from working as president "or in any other position having pricing responsibility or authority" for American or any other airline for two years. No criminal charges were filed in the case, which alleges "anti-trust," or activity that prohibits competition between private businesses.

American's chairman, Albert V. Casey, said from the airline's Dallas headquarters that the complaint was "entirely unjustified." Braniff, also with headquarters in Dallas, declined comment. The smaller airline, which shut down its operations last May and is trying to reorganize under federal bankruptcy laws, was not charged.

## Soviets speed up work on pipeline

MOSCOW, Feb. 24 (AP) — Soviet workers have laid two-thirds of the pipeline due to start pumping natural gas from Siberia to Western Europe next year, the official news agency Tass said Thursday.

Tass said that "in the last few weeks" work on the pipeline had speeded up and that 50 teams were now adding 32 kilometers of pipe each day to the project.

Three thousand kilometers of the 4,451 kilometer pipeline from the Urengoi peninsula in western Siberia to the western border of the Soviet Union have been completed, Tass said.

The pipeline is due to start delivering natural gas to West European countries next year. The Soviets have said repeatedly in recent months the project will be complete late this year.

The pipeline project, the biggest East-West trade deal, caused a major rift last year between the United States and its NATO allies.

## Sweden to ease price freeze

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 24 (R) — Sweden's Social Democratic government has decided to end a price freeze it imposed in October as part of a package to combat an economic crisis.

The freeze, introduced at the same time as the crown was devalued by 16 percent, will end March 1, according to a government statement. Large enterprises will have to give a month's notice of price increases.

Consumer organizations reassured the Swedish public that there would be no great upsurge in prices because firms would have to remain competitive in difficult market conditions.

The devaluation, which was criticized by Sweden's Nordic neighbors as giving Sweden an unfair export advantage, is showing signs of success as companies post generally good 1982 profit figures, attributed in part to the currency adjustment.

### Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 6:15 p.m. Thursday	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.20	9.15
Bangladesh Taka	14.20	14.30
Belgian Franc (1,000)	74.00	72.85
Canadian Dollar	7.22	7.22
Deutsche Mark (100)	143.10	142.75
Dutch Guilder (100)	130.00	129.43
Egyptian Pound	3.15	3.11
European Dollar (100)	93.75	93.75
French Franc (100)	50.70	50.40
Greek Drachma (1,000)	38.50	41.35
Indian Rupee (100)		34.62
Italian Lira (10,000)	25.00	24.81
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	14.80
Jordanian Dinar	9.75	9.68
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.85	11.82
Libyan Lira (100)	86.50	85.58
Moroccan Dirham (100)	52.50	54.15
Pakistan Rupee (100)	28.10	26.95
Philippines Peso (100)		36.62
Pound Sterling	5.28	5.25
Qatari Riyal (100)	95.00	94.70
Singapore Dollar (100)		166.57
Spanish Peseta (1,000)		166.57
Swiss Franc (100)	170.00	169.48
Syrian Lira (100)	62.00	61.60
Turkish Lira (1,000)		3.45
U.S. Dollar		75.15
Yemeni Riyal (100)		75.15

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3.	Hellen	El Hawi	Cont/Gen.	15.2.83
4.	Artemios	O.C.E.	Steel	22.2.83
5.	Haj Ahmed	El Hawi	Timber	20.2.83
7.	Liming	S.S.M.S.C.	Bagged Food/Gen.	23.2.83
8.	Melville Progress	O. Trade	Grain Timber	23.2.83
10.	New Zealand Reefer	O.C.E.	Reefer	15.2.83
11.	Mieczyslaw Kalinowski	El Hawi	Cont/Gen.	15.2.83
12.	Saudi Palm	M.E.S.A.	Gen./Steel	20.2.83
14.	Reefstar	O.C.E.	Orange/Lemons	15.2.83
16.	Al Khames 1	Abdullah	Containers	23.2.83
18.	Zeus 1	Abdullah	Bulk Cement	22.1.83
19.	Strinda	Al Sabah	Bulk Cement	23.2.83
20.	Sedge	Bamsodeh	Steel/Timber	14.1.83
21.	Karman Reefer	O.C.E.	Frozen Chicken	15.2.83
22.	Edinburgh Uni.	Star	Bananas	15.2.83
23.	Barber Tennessee	Star	Gen./Cont	16.2.83
24.	Florida	Shobokshi	Steel/General	15.2.83
25.	Melville Ambassador	O.T.A.	Foodstuffs	17.2.83
26.	Sunderland	A.E.T.	General/Steel	18.2.83
27.	Good Warrior	A.E.T.	General/Steel	18.2.83
28.	Caribbean Uni.	Star	Bananas	15.2.83
30.	Jadro	Attar	Tiles	14.2.83
33.	Bailly	Gulf	Stl/General	15.2.83
34.	Chastine Maersk	Kanoo	Containers	13.2.83
35.	Ghotia	Fame	Containers	15.2.83
KING ABDUL AZIZ PORT DAMMAM SHIPS MOVEMENT UPTO 0700 HOURS OF 11.5.1403/24.2.1983 CHANGES FOR THE PAST 24 HOURS				
1. VESSELS DISCHARGING:				
Berth	Name of Vessel	Agent	Type of Cargo	Arrival
1.	Halla Pilot	Gulf	General	24.2.83
5.	Indian Indurance	Gossabi	General	24.2.83
6.	Tong Jiang	Gossabi	Cars	22.2.83
12.	Alps Highway	UEP	Malze/Tim.	16.2.83
13.	Singapore Island	Kanoo	General	23.2.83
14.	Ben Sira	SEA	Gen./Timber	6.2.83
15.	Sea Astrea	SEA	General	22.2.83
17.	Han Nara	OCE	General	3.2.83
18.	Halla Partner	Gulf	General	12.2.83
19.	Kaghan	SEA	Bulk Cement	30.1.83
21.	Kilmack	Kanoo	Loading Empty	1.2.83
24.	Fathulchair	Kanoo	Loading Empty	1.2.83
25.	Union Yembo	Kanoo	Containers	30.1.83
26.	Asel Maersk	Al Sabah	Bulk Cement	26.1.83
27.	Falcon Cement	Al Sabah	Bulk Berytes	26.1.83
29.	MIA	Barber	General	25.1.83
30.	Tarpon Star	SCSA	General	26.1.83
31.	Federal Huran	SMC	General	26.1.83
33.	Union Beauty	Altawil	Steel/Gen.	26.1.83
36.	Pearl Flag	Al Sabah	Cement Silo Vsl	4.1.83
37.	Garcia Larca (D.B)	Barber	Bulk Cement	25.1.83
38.	Nishio Maru (D.B.)	Globe	Bulk Cement	27.1.83

## Dollar rates shed gains

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Feb. 24 — The dollar eased back on the New York exchange Wednesday night, shedding some of its gains after the almost panicky trading earlier on Wednesday. Once again dealers were puzzled by the market switches which seemed to change from day to day and even within the space of a few hours.

Trading was generally nervous and confused with small orders plunging the dollar and other currencies in often contradictory directions. The exchanges were also split in their opinion on why the dollar had moved up so sharply and they based this on the uncertain oil price situation in the world today and a flight into the dollar. This seems to contradict the earlier estimates that lower oil prices would benefit such countries as Japan and West Germany who import oil. On Thursday, the latter view seemed to have regained favor and the Japanese yen and the mark recovered some ground against the dollar although operators were not exactly sure how much could be attributed to a change of sentiment and how much to profit-taking sales on the dollar.

The mark was trading at 2.4150 on Thursday compared with 2.4450 on Wednesday, while the Japanese yen was 200 points up at 234.50 on Thursday.

The bullion markets were nervous Thursday and saw prices fall back to \$437 an ounce from \$480 levels Wednesday. In New York, gold prices had registered an even sharper fall to \$467 an ounce but had stabilized by close of business. Silver prices

continued to drop sharply to \$13.60 an ounce from \$13.70 on Wednesday and \$14.40 on Monday. Dealers are advising caution and await to see how bullion prices will react on the weekend New York markets.

On the exchanges in Europe, the British pound made a brave rally to trade at 1.5280 levels against the dollar after falling an all-time low of 1.5120 on Wednesday. The pound's rally was helped by some bank of England support and profit-taking but the decision to postpone any oil price cuts from the GCC member states and Iraq until next week helped steady the pressured pound.

The dollar was weaker against the Swiss franc and the French franc traded at 2.0310 and 6.8500 levels respectively. In all the confusion of the past few days, the Eurodollar markets remained steady with little changes seen. In the shorter tenors the one-month rate traded around 9 percent — slightly up over Wednesday levels.

The domestic markets were also steady and the rial deposit levels were traded in the shorter tenors taking the one-month rate to 6 1/2 - 7 1/2 percent, while the week-fixed was easier at 6 1/4 - 7 percent level. Spot rial/dollar rates were traded around 3.4399-03 reflecting the dollar's fall in Europe.

LONDON (AP) — Closing gold prices (in U.S. dollars per troy ounce):

London	474.00
Paris	472.81
Frankfurt	475.61
Zurich	473.50
Hong Kong	473.57

## Oil price slide may bolster economy

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 (AP) — All signs point to a big break soon in oil prices — good news for oil-importing nations and consumers.

Unlike the shocks of soaring oil prices in the 1970s, the falling prices are expected to pump new life into the world economy. But it will produce some problems as well.

Even if the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries lowers its base price by about \$4 a barrel from the current \$34, competition may force yet another series of price cuts.

The best guesses of U.S. analysts are that world oil prices will drop to a range of \$27 to \$30 a barrel within a few weeks, possibly sooner.

Already some major oil producers have cut prices to that level. Britain, which is not an OPEC member, lowered its price by \$3 a barrel to \$30.50 last Friday. Nigeria, which is an OPEC member, announced a cut of \$5.50, to \$30 a barrel, the next day.

American refiners have cut domestic crude

prices twice in recent weeks each time by \$1 a barrel, and Egypt and the Soviet Union also lowered their prices.

While the fortunes of many oil-exporting nations would be damaged by a big drop in oil prices, industrialized countries and heavily indebted developing nations stand to benefit handsomely, economists say.

Economists at New York's Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. calculate that a \$5 a barrel drop in oil prices would save the United States \$27 billion a year and would reduce the nation's trade deficit by \$8 billion.

Japan and many Western European nations would be helped by lower oil import bills and a reduced rate of inflation. The magnitude of benefit might be even greater for Brazil and other heavily indebted countries which import large amounts of oil.

And such countries as South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines — which also are oil importers — would be helped by an increase in world trade as a result of lower oil prices.

## EEC bid to resolve row with U.S.

BRUSSELS, Feb. 24 (R) — The president of the European Economic Community's executive committee has asked U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to agree to ministerial talks aimed at resolving the transatlantic dispute over farm subsidies, a commission spokesman said Thursday.

The request was made in a letter sent Wednesday by the president, Gaston Thorn. He warned Shultz of grave dangers arising out of the dispute which is centered on the share-out of shrinking world agricultural markets. "A meeting would be useful and necessary as soon as possible," the commission spokesman said Thursday.

He added that the community hoped the United States would not make further subsidized sales of agricultural products.

Last month, Washington subsidized the sale of a million tons of flour to Egypt, driving the Europeans out of one of their most valuable farm produce markets. "Other sales would lead to an escalation dangerous for both sides and could jeopardize the talks in progress (with the Americans)," the spokesman said.

"Ministerial-level talks are necessary to avoid a further deterioration of relations with our American partners and to avoid a trade war."

No date had been suggested for the talks, but that could be quickly settled if the Americans agreed in principle with Thorn's suggestion.

The spokesman said he would expect the meeting to include cabinet-level representatives on the U.S. side, and Thorn and other leading members of the commission on the European side.

Shultz, leading a team of U.S. cabinet members, met Thorn in Brussels in December, when they agreed to arrange two meetings of senior officials to try to resolve differences over agricultural subsidies.

But the officials, who met in January and earlier this month, failed to resolve fundamental differences over the European Community's long-standing subsidies system. Diplomats said the community believed that the dispute could be settled only at the political level, and had prompted Thorn's letter.

Earlier this week, community foreign ministers agreed to send a separate note to Shultz warning him of the wider political dangers of a full-scale farm trade war.

They said they wanted to avoid a confrontation with the United States, but emphasized that they would defend what they regarded as their legitimate trading rights.

## BRIEFS

COFENHAGEN (R) — Denmark's seasonally adjusted unemployment rose to a provisional 262,700 in December from a revised 262,400 in November and 256,000 a year earlier, the statistics bureau said. It said 10 percent of the work force was jobless in December, the same as in November, compared with 9.7 percent in December 1981.

KINGSTON (AP) — Two Airbus aircraft obtained from France in a lease-purchase deal have arrived here, it was reported Wednesday. The two A300 planes, leased from Airbus Industries of France, will be used on Air Jamaica routes between here and Miami, Toronto and New York. They arrived at Norman Manley International Airport on Sunday. The Jamaican national airline will pay \$3.45 million for eight quarterly instalments, followed by 32 payments of \$3.75 million.

NEW DELHI (AP) — Industrial and agricultural production in India are expected to sag in fiscal 1982-83, the government told parliament in a pre-budget economic survey. India's gross national product growth will decline from 5.5 percent in 1981-82 to 2 percent in 1982-83, the report said. The GNP is the total value of a nation's annual output of goods and services.

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The United States steel industry has decided to renew its petition against "unfair trade practices" by Japanese steel producers, the American Iron and Steel Institute has announced. The petition had been conditionally withdrawn on Jan. 31 in the hope that inter-governmental talks could lead to an appropriate settlement.

HONG KONG (R) — The Hong Kong government announced hefty increases in taxes on cigarettes and petrol to help deal with its expected deficit in the coming financial year. Financial Secretary John Bremridge, presenting his budget to the British colony's legislative council, said Hong Kong had been battered by "the tail winds of the worst global recession since the 1930s."

ANKARA (R) — Turkey plans to modernize its air traffic control and communications systems, updating its radar installations, to improve safety, Minister of Communications Mustafa Aysan has said. He told a press conference that the plans were being given priority consideration but he did not elaborate.

## Oil price boom in mid-1980s predicted

LONDON, Feb. 24 (R) — The world faces an oil price explosion in the mid-1980s despite the current depression in the oil market, according to a report published here Thursday.

The Economist Intelligence Unit report, "OPEC and the world oil outlook," said: "The same forces that so dramatically drove down demand for OPEC oil in the early 1980s will probably drive it up again over the next few years and, in the process, drive up oil prices sharply."

The report's authors, oil economists Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani and Fereidun Fesharaki, argue that oil sales, and those of OPEC oil in particular, have suffered disproportionately as a result of world recession and energy saving.

# arab news

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## SCIENTIFIC FRAUDS

A storm has been raging in academic circles in the last one month about Margaret Mead's findings on Samoa. An Australian scientist has come out with some fresh evidence to show that the theories expounded by Mead in her book *Coming of Age in Samoa* (incidentally it was this work which made her an anthropological celebrity overnight) about Samoan adolescence and the utter lack of inhibition in the Samoan character is based on insufficient and incomplete data. Nobody has so far accused the great anthropologist of having fabricated the facts to suit some preconceived notions although nothing can be ruled out.

The fact is that like any other field of human activity, science has also been producing its share of counterfeits. Pressure to publish, aspiration to academic recognition, getting a drug on the market first — innumerable are the temptations for apparently successful and even brilliant men and women to try their hands at fabrication. A recent case in point is that of a young American heart researcher who was caught "red-handed" while fabricating scientific data. The first sign that something was wrong with Dr. John Darsee came in May 1981 when laboratory technicians and younger research fellows watched him taking measurements that were supposed to be spread over some days "in a few minutes". The matter would have ended with the denial to him of an expected promotion and an additional year of fellowship if a far more serious deception had not come to light. This involved a study using dogs to find out whether a particular heart drug could limit damage after a heart attack. His record of this study, made before his confession over the other project, was also found to be completely fake. The U.S. National Institute of Health is also considering the case of Dr. Joseph Cort, an "internationally respected" scientist who had confessed to fabricating data while working in a New York hospital on drugs to encourage extra clotting in the blood of hemophiliacs.

Dr. Darsee, we are told, has been banned from receiving government research funds for 10 years. For all that we know about the esprit de corps among the scientific community, Dr. Cort may also escape with some such light punishment. But what about the public who unwittingly take some drugs or medicine marketed on the basis of fake scientific data and suffer serious physical or mental damage? Is it not time some thought was given to this aspect of the problem of counterfeit science? And what about a research into scientific frauds? How many scientific heads would not roll in the wake of such a research — if it is undertaken, and this is a big if, without fabricating data or evidence.

## Saudi Arabian press review

Newspapers Thursday commented on the outcome of the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting just concluded in Algiers and called for "strong moves to face Israeli danger".

Stressing the importance of such moves *Al-Yom* said they should be different from the previous ones "because the Zionist danger is now bigger than ever". The paper noted the switch of world public opinion strongly in favor of the Palestinians recently, and said this would ensure the right atmosphere for the implementation of the unified Arab Middle East peace plan.

*Al-Bilad* said that the PNC — parliament-in-exile — had set out the strategy of future Palestinian action on the basis of liberating the land and building an independent Palestinian state. It described the latest Palestinian moves as "fully rational" and said this had prompted West European political circles to follow them up with admiration coupled with anxiety for fear of the Zionists' reaction in view of their domination of the information media and other establishments.

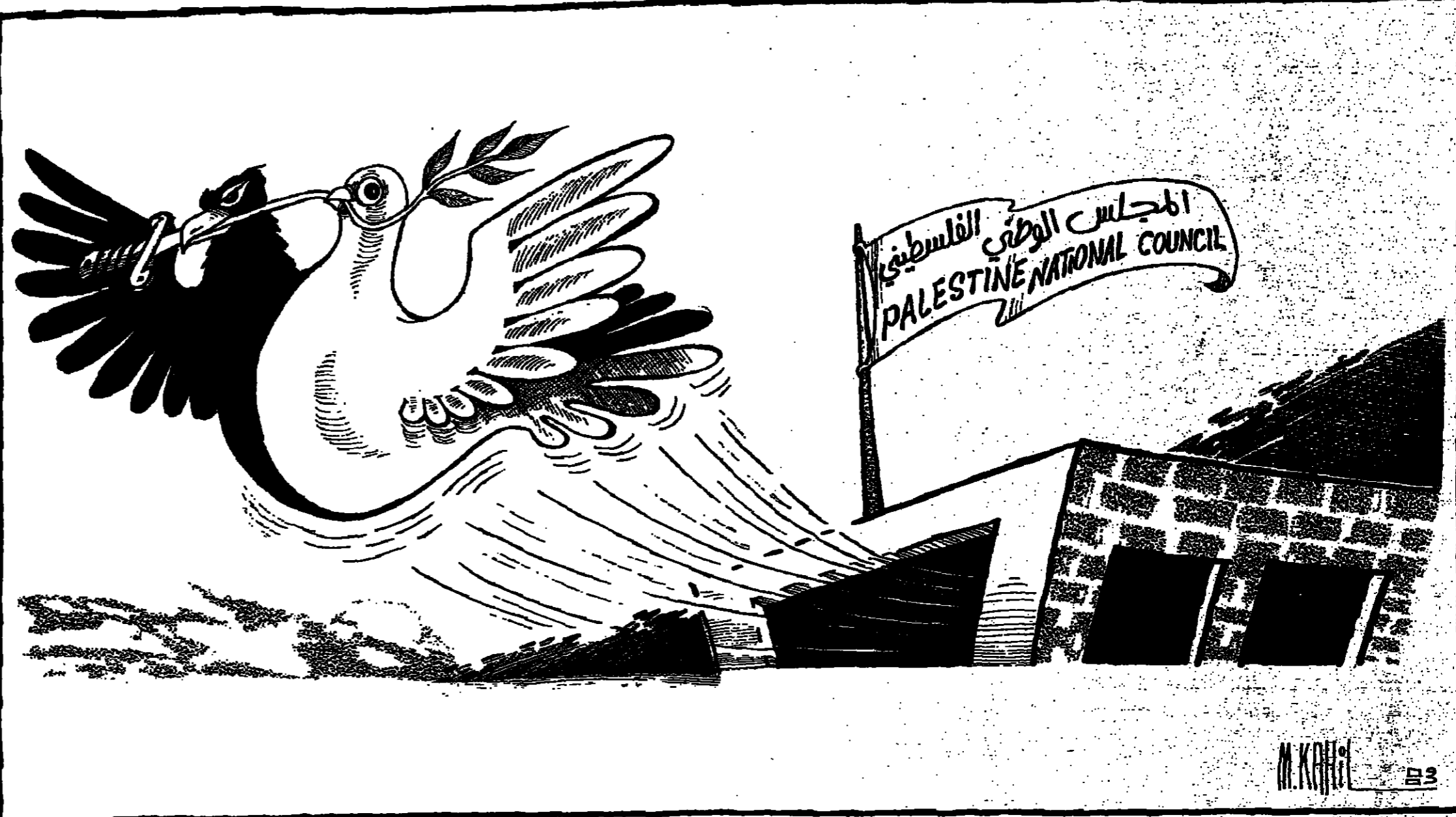
*Al-Riyadh* said the Gulf oil ministers' meeting held in Riyadh "is undoubtedly the last chance to

save what can be salvaged, not only within OPEC but also of the world economy since oil is considered its prime mover and a basic factor for progress and development."

*Al-Madinah* said Saudi Arabia's stand on the question of oil prices and output quotas was wise. It added that Nigeria's unilateral action prompted serious consideration of the oil situation and a united Gulf stand to avert an outbreak of price war among OPEC members that could eventually lead to the organization's collapse and harm international economy.

*Okaz* remarked that since OPEC's formation, Saudi Arabia had been anxious to back its unity and safeguard the organization's economic interests within the framework of a stable world economic system. It said the Kingdom has spared no effort and availed itself of all opportunities to warn of the consequences of embarking on the adventure of raising oil prices.

"Now that certain countries within and outside the framework of OPEC have reduced oil prices, we have to shoulder our responsibilities and rectify the mistakes committed by others. (SPA)



## Political chaos foreseen in Iran after Khomeini

By Stephanie Kiesel  
Houston Bureau

(Editor's Note: Mansour Farhang, former Iranian ambassador to the United Nations who resigned over the hostage crisis, now represents the National Council of Resistance in the United States, bringing issues of human rights violations to the attention of the U.N. and non-governing bodies. In this exclusive interview with *Arab News* on the fourth anniversary of the Iranian revolution Farhang describes the political and economic situation in Iran.)

Question: What caused your break with the Khomeini regime?

Answer: I was very critical of the hostage situation and proposed to the then President Bani-Sadr to form an international commission to mediate the crisis. It would have provided a face-saving measure for Khomeini to resolve the crisis and return the hostages.

I went to New York in December 1979 and met with U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and the Algerian ambassador. I went before the U.N. Security Council Jan. 7, 1980, to present the idea of the commission. It was opposed by the United States because at the time Carter was running against Kennedy in the Massachusetts primary and he didn't want to appear to be giving in.

The commission went to Iran in March 1980 to present its report. Khomeini had said he would accept it. They were supposed to be there five to seven days to issue the report. It would have allowed Khomeini to transfer control of the hostages from the students to the government and they would have been released immediately.

Instead, Khomeini made them wait 17 days and then wouldn't accept the report. He totally contradicted everything he had said he would do.

(Farhang resigned in late April 1980 but remained in Iran until August 1981. By then, he had become a wanted man and his apartment had been seized. After the ouster of Bani-Sadr, he went underground and eventually escaped to Paris and

later to the United States. He has been employed as a visiting fellow at Princeton University since that time, teaching in the international relations department.)

Q. How long have you been associated with the National Council of Resistance?

A. I was associated with the council from the beginning, but a year ago I agreed to become the representative here in the United States, focusing mainly on human rights issues. Our major activities have been through non-government agencies such as Amnesty International. And we have been successful. Recently, Amnesty International cited Iran as the worst violator of human rights. There have been 25,000 political executions since June 1981 and there are 60,000 political prisoners.

Q. Can you add to that the number of casualties in the Iran-Iraq War?

A. Yes. There have been 150,000 killed in the war and 300,000 wounded. The cost of the material for the war has been over \$300 billion. It's now costing more than \$1 billion a month to continue the war. It has forced Khomeini to sell oil \$3 to \$4 below the market price.

Q. What will this mean in terms of the future recovery of the country?

A. Under the very best of situations, Iran will need a generation to rebuild what has been destroyed. No country has ever been subjected to such tragedy. We are living under the most vicious system of terror the world has ever seen.

Q. What about in terms of economic recovery?

A. Iran is more dependent on the outside now for things such as food. Prices have gone up 300 percent in four years. There are 5 million unemployed and the country's industrial production has fallen by one-third.

Q. What change would the National Council of Resistance bring to Iran?

A. It is committed to due process and democracy — that was supposed to be the goal of Khomeini. The National Council of Resistance represents democracy for the people — many died because of believing in democracy. The supporters of the Mujahedeen are not defending a power base. They could have had whatever power they wanted if they had submitted to Khomeini. It is not power that they want.

Q. Do you have any trouble defending Bani-Sadr's strength in the National Council of Resistance given the fact that he was once part of the Khomeini regime?

A. For a year before he left, Bani-Sadr was a principal critic of Khomeini. He accused the regime of practicing torture. But when Khomeini first came to power, he was a man loved by the masses. The man changed after July 1979 when the hostages were taken. When he first came back into Iran, he stopped at the university and made a statement that the students and the university were the leaders of the future. One year later, he condemned any modern tendencies and closed the universities. The country's entire higher education system is shut down.

Then, he began seeking power. When he came to Iran, he was not a criminal; he wanted a peaceful, independent government. Khomeini symbolized a peaceful movement. But now he is a fascist, totalitarian leadership.

Khomeini has actually succeeded in establishing a very effective coercive apparatus in Iran. And it is definitely a very centralized, repressive regime — a propaganda apparatus. The ministry of information is actually the ministry of secret police.

Q. How do the people feel about Khomeini now?

A. He does not enjoy the support of even 10 percent of the people. It was power that corrupted the traditional man.

Q. What will be the political transition once Khomeini is gone?

A. It is likely with the disappearance of Khomeini we will see the fall of the regime, just as when the Shah fell, the entire regime collapsed. Khomeini has not created an institution of continuity. It will not survive after him. It is impossible for anyone (in the clerical set) to replace Khomeini. There will be a period of chaos in the regime. Possibly, some of the young officers in the army, who are against Khomeini, will take over. There will be a general coalition.

Or there are various factions within the regime (who might try to take control). After Khomeini's disappearance, there will be a political struggle.

Q. Will the people trust someone from the religious sect again?

A. There is no one. There are seven grand ayatollahs on the same level with Khomeini. Two are under house arrest, one has been deposed, one is in prison and three are silent.

What Khomeini has done has no precedent in Iran. There had never been a government of the clerics before. That's why he was so deceptive.

Q. What is the military strength of the National Council of Resistance? Could it overthrow Khomeini?

A. It is impossible to tell. Hardly a single day goes by that there is not a confrontation with the regime. But Khomeini is surrounded by a wall of security. The Shah didn't have one-tenth the security around him that Khomeini does.

Q. How has the Iran-Iraq war affected Khomeini's power?

A. The pick are sick and tired of the war. There is no military solution to that war. There is only a negotiated solution and Khomeini is categorically against a political solution.

Khomeini made a tremendous mistake by thinking the Shiites in Iraq would come to his aid and overthrow Saddam Hussein. And Hussein was wrong to think that Iran would be happy to have someone help them get rid of Khomeini. The people are proud and will always fight for their homeland — they will always fight if the war is waged at home.

Q. Iran is perceived by the West as a radical state in the crucial oil area. What would the National Council's relations be with the superpowers?

A. The National Council of Resistance is definitely interested in establishing equitable relations with the superpowers. They have a very realistic outlook of the world situation and they don't want antagonistic relations with anyone.

## German poll outcome depends on FDP votes

By Paul Taylor

BONN —

A few thousand votes more or less for the smallest parliamentary party, the Free Democrats (FDP), may determine the outcome of West Germany's general election on March 6.

It will also decide whether the FDP, after being in power for 27 of the last 34 years, remains the country's vital third political force or is reduced to a precarious existence as a splinter group with no parliamentary representation. The grim alternative has haunted the liberal party since its leader, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, took his four ministers out of Social Democratic Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's government and helped Helmut Kohl's conservatives to power last autumn.

In the ensuing weeks, the small party's fortunes crumbled in regional polls as internal turmoil threatened to tear it apart. Five senior liberals quit the FDP and some 10,000 members out of a total of 86,000 handed back their party cards in protest at the switch. Two weeks before polling day, Genscher seems sure that a depleted, more right-wing but reunited FDP will get back into parliament. Opinion polls suggest survival is by no means assured, however.

Under West Germany's constitution, parties need at least five percent of the vote to get any seats in parliament. Thus every election can mean sudden death for the Free Democrats. That prospect

seemed far-fetched when the FDP, running on Schmidt's coat tails, received 10.6 percent in the 1980 general elections. The political weekly *Der Spiegel* put Genscher on the cover of a special edition with the caption "the winner."

But the Foreign Minister's maneuvering in the months before the fall of the Schmidt government so alienated voters that even some of his closest followers in the FDP have come to regard him as a liability. The *Nadir* came in a state election in Hamburg in December when the FDP crashed to just 2.6 percent of the vote.

George Gallus, state secretary in the Agriculture Ministry and a well-known FDP right-winger, summed up the irritation at Genscher. "It wasn't the coalition change that got us into this mess — most voters knew a switch was long overdue — it was clumsy maneuvering by our leadership," he told Reuters.

The party's left wing walked out en masse after narrowly failing to topple Genscher at an ill-planned congress in West Berlin last November. Some of the best-known defectors are running on the Social Democratic slate this time, including former FDP General Secretary Guenter Verheugen, an erstwhile Genscher protégé.

When the liberals met for their pre-election congress last month in Freiburg, a city which once symbolized an innovative brand of social liberalism, they adopted an economic program to the right of their conservative coalition partners. The party

applauded Genscher politely but reserved a standing ovation for Economics Minister Otto Lamb-dorff, the most determined exponent on the coalition switch.

One Western diplomat who observed the congress summed up the program, which foresees lower taxes on the self-employed and well-to-do, as "German Reaganomics." The FDP manifesto also included ambitious calls for liberal law reform, but party leaders openly doubt these ideas can be put into practice with Kohl's Christian Democrats.

"It would be illusory to think enough people will vote for us now just for our liberal program," new General Secretary Irmgard Adam-Schwartz said. "They will vote for us because of our practical function in the parliamentary system." That hope is mirrored in a campaign with slogans like "Kohl cannot make it alone," urging conservative voters to make use of West Germany's complex voting procedure and give their second vote to the FDP.

Under the system, voters cast one ballot for a constituency candidate and another for the party of their choice. It is the second vote alone which decides how many parliamentary seats, if any, each party receives.

FDP leaders hope enough Kohl supporters, scared by the prospect of an all-conservative government dominated by right-wing Bavarian state premier, Franz Josef Strauss, will split the ballot in favor of the Liberals. The FDP has tried to keep fears of Strauss alive with advertisements arguing that Genscher is the better foreign minister and vice chancellor.

Genscher has refused to speculate on what would happen to the FDP if it failed to get back into parliament next month, but one thing is certain — his days as party leader would be numbered.

Most political analysts believe the Free Democrats could survive as a party even if they lost the election, although much of the financial support they receive from business would dry up. They argue that the FDP is still solid enough to rebuild at provincial level and perhaps return to Bonn at the next general election in 1987.

Waiting in the wings as a potential leader is the party's leading intellectual, Ralf Dahrendorf, whose contract as director of the London School of Economics expires this year. While denying he has any ambitions, Professor Dahrendorf has sought to play down the significance of the March 6 poll, saying the FDP's problems will only really begin afterward.

If the FDP does return to parliament, some sections of the party are anyway looking for ways to ease Genscher gradually out of the leadership, party sources said. Their ideal successor would be Lambdorff, the darling of the FDP right. But he must first emerge unscathed from a long-running bribery scandal involving a major private firm. (R)

## Letter to the editor

Baltic states

Sir,  
Please accept my sincere compliments for mentioning the Baltic states — Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania in your "Today in History" column and in feature articles.

The fate of Baltic states is unique in some aspects. As colonies of former Czarist Russian Empire, they seceded from the crumbling empire in 1918 by declaring their independence. Lithuania on Feb. 16, Estonia on Feb. 24 and Latvia on Nov. 18. These dates are still celebrated as national holidays, secretly in the homelands and openly in exile.

In the subsequent peace treaties, the Soviet Union renounced all claims against the new republics and promised to respect their sovereignty forever. This lasted until 1939 when Stalin and Hitler divided Northeastern Europe into respective spheres of influence, leaving the Baltic states in the Russian sphere.

In June 1940, the Soviet armies occupied the Baltic states and genocidal mass deportation to Russian KZ camps started in June 1941. The last

advance of German armies disrupted the mass deportations until March 1949, when about 10 percent of the countries' population was deported or exiled. The total loss exceeded 30 percent in Latvia and Estonia and was somewhat less in Lithuania.

Whereas the Nazi war criminals have been sentenced, hanged, shot or otherwise disposed of, the Russian war criminals have been treated well in Western capitals and universities.

Even the Russian war crimes in Afghanistan find only scanty exposure in Western news media, whereas the Nazi criminals deserve the headlines. Apparently, only losers are war criminals and might makes right — regardless of the crimes committed.

Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania were the last members of the League of Nations, not represented in the United Nations. The Western world appears to honor the Stalin-Hitler pact of 1939 which sealed the fate of Poland and released the floodgates of World War II.

V. Vinkman  
Yamou

Today is Friday, Feb. 25, the 56th day of 1983. There are 309 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1545 — Scots defeat English at Ancrum Moor.

1576 — England's Queen Elizabeth I excommunicated by Pope Pius V.

1601 — Britain's Earl of Essex is executed for treason.

1713 — Sweden's King Charles XII is taken prisoner by sultan of Turkey.

1885 — Germany annexes Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

1948 — Communist coup in Czechoslovakia.

1954 — Col. Gamal Abdul Nasser usurps power as premier of Egypt. Syria's President Chikell flees following army revolt.

1956 — Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev goes before Communist Party Congress in Moscow and denounces late Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin.

1972 — U.S. President Richard Nixon ends visit to Peking, bearing pledge from Premier Chou En-lai to work toward normal relations.

1975 — U.S. President Gerald Ford warns that Cambodia will fall to Communists if U.S. Congress does not provide funds for that nation's defense.

1981 — Spanish parliament endorses new cabinet after reconvening session that was interrupted previous day by attempted coup by civil guards.

Thought for today:  
Nothing is ever accomplished by a reasonable man — George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born author-playwright (1856-1950).

# Islam in perspective

## What the Qur'an teaches

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Beneficent.

Adam received from his Lord certain words, and He accepted his repentance: He is Merciful. "Go down hence, all of you". We said: "There shall certainly come to you guidance from Me, and those who follow My guidance shall have nothing to fear, nor shall they grieve."

(Al-Baqarah; 2: 37-8)

We sent forth Noah to his people: "Behold, I am a plain warner to you. Worship none but Allah. I fear for you the torment of a grievous day."

(Houd: 11: 25-6)

## Origin of monotheism

Over the last few weeks we have explained the Qur'anic account of the history of Noah and his people as related in *surah Houd* in considerable detail. There are, however, several points which merit further comment, since their significance is not confined to the story or to the people of Noah. Indeed historical accounts are given in the Qur'an because they are relevant to all mankind and they have a bearing on the idea of faith. We will take these points separately over the next two or three weeks so that the full significance of the story, as told in the *surah*, is absolutely clear.

Many people ask whether the floods engulfed the whole earth or were they confined to a certain area where Noah and his people lived. What were the boundaries of that area in the ancient world or in the new one? We simply have no definite answer to any such question. But then the significance of the story is in no way affected by our lack of knowledge on this point. Taken at its face value, the Qur'anic text suggests that the people of Noah constituted all mankind in that particular period. Their land was the only inhabited area of the earth. Secondly, the floods must have swept this whole area, drowning all creatures, except those who were saved in the Ark.

This is sufficient for us to understand that great event which we are certain to have happened, since no lesser source than the

Qur'an tells us about it. Our books of history, on the other hand, record nothing about that ancient period. Writing history is relatively a very modern event. History, therefore, records only a fraction of events witnessed by mankind. Besides, whatever is reported by history is liable to error, falsification and distortion. Hence, we need not seek the confirmation of history for anything which we are certain to have happened, since we are told about it by Allah who has revealed the Qur'an.

The people of Noah who were immersed in ignorance, hardened in their evil ways, and who stubbornly rejected the message of Allah based on the Oneness of Allah, the only deity in the universe, are the descendants of Adam. We know from the history of Adam which is related in *surahs 7* and *8* (The Heights and The Cow) that his fall was the prelude for him and his offspring to be charged with the task of building the earth. This is the purpose of his creation. Allah has given him the qualities and abilities necessary for him to do his task after He had told him how to repent and to seek forgiveness for his error. Adam received certain commandments from his Lord and Allah forgave him his sin. He then pledged to Allah along with his wife and offspring, that they will always follow His guidance and will never listen to Satan, their eternal enemy. Adam, then, descended on earth with the

right faith: submitting himself to Allah, following His guidance. He did, no doubt, teach his children the meaning of Islam, i.e. submission to Allah. Hence, this submission, or Islam, was the first faith ever known to man on earth. There was no other faith alongside it. Hence, if the people of Noah who were a later generation of mankind, have become so immersed in the type of ignorance described in this *surah* we can state, in all certainty, that such ignorance with all that it entailed of paganism, legends, idols, false concepts and traditions is something more recent than the pure faith of Islam with which human life on earth started. Man's deviation from Islam, in its broader sense, has taken place as a result of the machinations of Satan, the enemy of both Allah and man, who exploits people's weaknesses whenever they become lax in their observance of Allah's commandments and deviate from His guidance. Allah has created man and granted him a measure of free choice, by which he is tested. With this measure he can choose to hold fast to Allah's guidance, fortifying himself against his enemy. He can, on the other hand, deviate even an inch from Allah's guidance in order to follow any other way. In this case Satan will overpower him until he pushes him, eventually, to a condition of bleak ignorance similar to that experienced by the offspring of Adam, the Muslim Prophet, after a lapse of an unknown number of generations.

This fact that the first faith ever known on earth is that of Islam, or submission to Allah, the only God and Lord of the universe, gives us no choice but to reject all the conjectures of the masters of comparative religion and evolutionists who claim that monotheism was a later development of human religion, preceded by several stages and forms of polytheism and dualism, worship of natural forces, spirits, planets, etc. Whatever "research" is made in this connection follows a line predetermined by historical, psychological and political factors whose aim is to destroy the basis of divine religions, revelations and messages in order to establish that all religions are a human product. Once this is established it can be

easily claimed that religions have developed as human thought developed.

Some of those who write in defense of Islam slip and endorse the theories established by those specialists in the history of religion conducting their research along that biased line. While defending Islam so enthusiastically they unwittingly destroy the basis of Islamic faith as stated in the Qur'an with decisive clarity. The Qur'an states that Adam (Peace be on him) descended on earth with the faith of Islam. It also states that Noah (Peace be on him) faced the later generations of mankind, deflected by Satan from the line of Islam to the line of pagan ignorance, with the same Islamic faith based on the absolute Oneness of Allah. The same cycle repeated itself after Noah with mankind abandoning Islam to adopt doctrines of ignorance. All Prophets were sent with the same message of Allah's Oneness, calling on mankind to submit themselves to Allah alone. At no point was there any development in the divine faith inasmuch as it relates to the basics of faith. Evolution, expansion and complexity touched only on the laws which accompanied the same faith. An enlightened study of the development of ignorance doctrines does not lead to the conclusion that people reached the stage of monotheism on the basis of progress relating to the essence of faith. It shows that the monotheistic faith, preached by successive Prophets and messengers, left more traces in succeeding generations, even after they have deviated from true faith, to make their ignorant doctrines nearer to the monotheistic origins. Faith in the Oneness of Allah dates back much further than all pagan religions. This faith was complete right from the start, because it was not the result of human thinking or increased human knowledge. It was given man by Allah and as such it was true and complete right from the beginning.

This is clearly established in the Qur'an. It is not for any Muslim scholar, especially if he wants to defend Islam, to depart from what is stated so clearly in the Qur'an in order to follow the masters of comparative religion as they group for a coherent theory.

## Our concept of Allah, knowledge of His attributes

By Adil Salahi

The Islamic concept of Allah, the divine and supreme being, cannot be complete unless we are aware of all His basic attributes, which, as we have mentioned earlier, contribute to our knowledge of Him. Some of His attributes relate only to Himself and His existence while others have some manifestation in some of His creation. Of the first type are such of the divine attributes as Allah's being the First, the Last and the One. When we describe Allah as being the First, our description means that His existence does not start at any particular time. There was no point in time when Allah came into being, and that He did not exist prior to it. Similarly, when we say that Allah is the Last we mean that His existence does not come to an end at any point of time. He is indeed eternal whose existence is not preceded or followed by a void. Allah describes Himself in the Qur'an: *Everything will surely perish except His face.* (28:88) The fact that He is the First and the Last means that he is the creator of everything and that his knowledge is full and complete.

We can deduce from various pronouncements of the Prophet that the first thing to be created in our world was water. Of the abstract creatures the first to be created was the pen. The Prophet says: *The first thing Allah created was the pen. He then ordered it to write and it wrote down everything that will take place until the day of judgment.* There is, however, no clear evidence that the first thing created was the human mind or the light of the Prophet.

It is worth noting that scientists of astronomy and geology agree with Muslim scholars that the universe came into being at a particular point in time and then developed afterward. Scientists, however, go on to estimate the age of the universe and the age of different planets and creatures. Islamic scholars do not involve themselves in such pur-

suits which may be scientifically exciting and important but have no considerable bearing on religious concepts or principles.

Some people ask the question: "If Allah has created everything, who created Allah?" Here we say that the question itself is not valid. As we have said last week, we cannot comprehend the nature of Allah. The Prophet says:

People will continue to ask questions until they say: Allah has created everything but who created Allah? Whoever finds such a thought perturbing him let him say: I believe in Allah.

Such a question need not cause us any difficulty. If we believe in Allah and that His attributes include perfection and creation we can find a satisfactory answer to our thoughts. If you put a book on your desk and leave the room, then notice when you come back that the book is in the drawer of that desk then you conclude that someone has moved the book and put it in that desk. At no time you will think that the book moved by itself. If, on the other hand, you go out of your room leaving a friend of yours sitting on a chair and when you come back you find your friend sitting on the floor you do not conclude that someone came and lifted him from the chair to put him on the floor. You believe that he himself has moved. This is because you know that a book has no power to move by itself while a human being can easily move by himself from one place to another. If we stretch this point to other qualities of creatures we know that nothing in the universe has the quality of self-creation. Nothing comes into being by itself. Everything must have a creator. It is not difficult for us to conclude that the creator of all the universe is Allah. When we say that Allah is perfect, perfection means that He does not require any power outside Himself to give Him anything or to do anything for Him.

As we have said earlier, Allah is One. This

means that He is not composed of parts which may be separated. He has no partner to share His kingdom with Him, no one has an attribute similar to His or can act and operate as He does. He alone can create from nothing, initiate and originate. Say: *He is Allah, the one and only God, the Eternal and the Absolute. He begot none, nor was He begotten, and there is none comparable to Him.* (112:1-4).

He is in no need of anyone, while all His creation needs Him. When He describes Himself as having begotten none, this means that His existence is perfect. "Nor was He begotten" means that He did not originate from someone else, because this would have meant that there was a point in time when His existence started. This is unacceptable from the Islamic point of view.

The first of His attributes which have manifestation in His creation is ability. He is the Able one who can do what He wills. The creation of the universe is indeed a manifestation of His great ability. His ability is indeed permanent, which means that He is able at any time to create or destroy anything and everything. We need only to contemplate various aspects of creation, and think about our life and the life of the universe around us and the great manifestations of Allah's ability would make us speechless. Another attribute of Allah is His will. This means that He decides the different characteristics of His creation. He may will to make a certain man tall or short, pretty or ugly, and He may cause him to live long or to die early, to have wide knowledge or to live in ignorance. He indeed can do with the universe whatever He desires and wills.

Allah is also described as All-knowing, All-aware. His knowledge includes the past, the present and the future. What is more, His knowledge is not accidental. This means that there is nothing which Allah did not know and then came to know later. Similarly, Allah does not forget anything He knows. His knowledge is not related to time or place.

Indeed, He knows the most minute detail of everything in the same way as He knows the whole of that thing. All the perfection that is visible in the universe is simply evidence of His vast knowledge and perfect wisdom.

The fact that Allah's knowledge is so complete is related to two of His attributes which are: hearing and seeing. Indeed He sees all and hears all. In order to describe His power of hearing, Muslim scholars say that Allah hears the footsteps of a black ant as it walks on a fine smooth surface in a black dark night. Nothing can confuse His hearing, and no language is incomprehensible to Him and no noise can drown any sound from His hearing. Similarly Allah sees everything and every side of everything.

When we say that Allah is able, has a will, and that He knows, hears and sees everything, these qualities necessitate another attribute of Allah, which is, life. He is, indeed, living. His life is perfect, not susceptible to any weakness or decline and cannot be terminated by death. Indeed, had He not been living He could not have created His creation. The Qur'an emphasizes this fact about Allah and describes Him in several places as the living master who controls all.

The most prominent of Allah's attributes are those contained in the first *surah* of the Qur'an, "The Opening". In this *surah*, Allah describes Himself as Lord of All Words, the Merciful, the Beneficent, King of the Day of Judgment. These attributes stress His power. His mercy which encompasses everything and the fact that to Him return everything so that everyone can be assigned his reward.

Our concept of Allah is the total sum of His attributes. If we reflect on these attributes and keep in our mind the fact that He is present with us wherever we are and that He sees us whatever we do, then we are bound to keep to the line which will eventually win for us Allah's pleasure with what it entails of being admitted to paradise in the hereafter.

## Our Dialogue

### Test-tube babies

Q. Does Islam approve of the new development known as the "test-tube baby"?

K.J. Khalil  
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Riyadh

A. Obviously, this is a very modern development for which we cannot find a ruling in the reference books of Islamic jurisprudence. Hence, modern scholars have to produce a ruling on the basis of the established rules of deduction. The most preferable method would not be confused by various scholars giving opposing and contradictory rulings.

The question of test-tube babies is a medical question. No scholar of Islamic jurisprudence would venture to give a ruling which may be deemed as final until the whole question is fully explained to him by a specialist doctor. I am, therefore, unable to give a proper opinion in this connection. What I can do, is to quote the opinion of Sheikh Ali Al-Tantawi, as published in our Arabic sister publication, *As-Sahih Al-Awsat*. Sheikh Ali Al-Tantawi, who is a leading authority in matters of jurisprudence and commands considerable respect in Saudi Arabia and the Muslim world generally, also stated that his opinion is not a final one. It is provisional ruling to be submitted to Muslim scholars to approve, amend or reject it on the basis of clear Islamic evidence.

Sheikh Ali-Tantawi is of the opinion that if the male sperm is made to fertilize in the test-tube a cell taken from the man's wife, and then the fertilized cell is returned to the womb of the same woman, i.e. the wife of the man whose sperm fertilized that cell, then this method of conception is Islamically acceptable, provided that all Islamic moral principles are strictly observed. It must be emphasized that the technique must be used only in

the case of married couples.

The technique which has come to be known as surrogate mother, that is, if the fertilized cell is planted in the womb of another woman, cannot be sanctioned and is, obviously, forbidden. What we have to understand here is that the womb is not a cooking pan which we fill with whatever cooking we want to produce. It has a function with pregnancy and enables the embryo to receive its nourishment. Besides, the technique of surrogate mothers confuses the issue of who is the real mother of the born baby. This is a serious matter from the Islamic point of view and the technique cannot, therefore, be approved.

### Heart transplant, inheritance of grandchildren

Q.1. I read in your column that eye donation is permissible in Islam. What about heart transplant and blood transfusion? Scientifically, it is said that there is a chance of transmission of genetic characteristics as a result of blood transfusion. If it is true, is it right to transfuse the blood of an unbeliever to a believer?

Q.2. If a man dies leaving behind his children and his father, the children automatically lose the right to inherit the share which should have belonged to their father of their grandfather's estate. Is that correct?

P.K.A. Kutty  
Jeddah

A.1. All these medical practices you have asked about are acceptable. Transmission of genetic characteristics could not lead any believer to abandon faith. After all, every human being is susceptible to believe in Allah. Acceptance of the faith is the normal attitude of upright human nature. Rejection of faith is the result of distortion. A believer who receives blood from a non-believer

should not be affected by this exercise. Muslim scholars agree that the benefit which results from utilizing any of these modern techniques of medicine outweighs by far any reservation concerning them. We should, therefore, have no hesitation to use them whenever necessary.

A.2. The grandchildren in the case you have mentioned are entitled to a share of the estate of their grandfather on the basis of the compulsory will. Whether the grandfather has made a will or not, he is deemed to have made a provision which gives his grandchildren the lesser of two amounts: either the full share which would have been inherited by their deceased father or one third of their grandfather's estate. This is the opinion of Imam Ibn Hazm and is implemented in several Muslim countries.

### Bank deposits

Q. Banks in my country, Pakistan, operate the following types of account: current accounts, saving accounts, fixed deposit accounts, and profit and loss sharing accounts. The second and third types generate interest. If a person who wants to open a saving account declares that he will receive no interest at all on his savings, would he still be guilty of interest which will accrue on his funds with the bank?

The banks claim that the last type of account, i.e. the profit and loss sharing one, is in line with Islamic principles. Is this correct?

Mushtaq Ahmad  
P.O. Box 583  
Dhahran Airport

A. I fail to understand why a person who wants to observe the Islamic teachings and refuse to accept interest should put his deposits in a saving account which earns interest. By so doing, he undoubtedly puts himself in a confused position. Would it not be much better and safer for him to put his money in a current account, thus avoiding

any suspicion that he is dealing in interest?

On the basis of its name, this account of profit and loss sharing seems to be Islamically acceptable. The objection to all sorts of financial arrangements where money deposits earn a fixed rate of interest or profit, arises from the fact that they involve no risk of incurring any loss. If new arrangements are established whereby the depositor is deemed to be a partner in the projects undertaken by the bank and is liable to receive his share of profit as well as losses then this is acceptable. The relevant basic idea in the Islamic financial theory is that money does not earn money. What earns money or profits is effort. Now, no one can guarantee with absolute certainty that effort and business judgment will always generate profits. Otherwise, no businessman would have incurred any loss and no company would have gone bankrupt.

The person who subscribes to such an account needs only to satisfy himself that the bank does not conduct its business in any project which is forbidden in Islam, such as the sale of intoxicants. He need not be concerned that the likelihood of the bank making any losses is minimal. After all, the bank is supposed to employ people who are financial experts and who are keen on making profits for the bank and its depositors and subscribers.

A reply to Mr. A. Mackonnen

We are all very grateful to you for your kind comments on these columns. Your praise is even more appreciated considering the fact that you are a Christian, as you say. We are sorry to be unable to increase the space given to the religious page at present. We hope that it may be possible in future. I perhaps should explain that Sayyid Qutb was a leading Egyptian scholar who wrote the most recent commentary on the Qur'an in 30 volumes. Our articles are a translation from this commentary. Sayyid Qutb died in 1966.

## Life of the Prophet- 99

## Second encounter with Jews: some reflections

By Adil Salahi

The second encounter between the Muslims in Madinah and their Jewish neighbors which resulted in the evacuation from Madinah of Al-Nadheer tribe was the direct result of an attempt by those Jews to take advantage of the setbacks that befell the Muslims in quick succession. Within a period of four months the Muslims suffered a major defeat at Uhud and the two treacherous attacks of Al-Rajie' and Bir Ma'oonah which, altogether, claimed the lives of at least one hundred and twenty of their fighters. The figure could be as high as 154 which was a large proportion of their total number, considering that Islam was largely confined to the city of Madinah at that time.

It was these setbacks which induced the Jews of Al-Nadheer to violate the treaty that they had with the Muslims and to plot against the life of the Prophet. Little did they consider that Muslims never tolerate deliberately broken pledges. It is not in the nature of the region of Islam to allow its followers to be easy targets for their enemies who wish to take advantage of any setback that may befall them. Islam inspires its followers with a feeling of dignity and pride in their religion, the pivot of which is the belief in the oneness of Allah, the creator of the universe. This explains why, kind and tolerant as the Muslims are they never allow anyone to take advantage of their weakness, if they can help it. Hence, when Al-Nadheer Jews tried to do something of this sort they had to be taught a lesson. The lesson was, for anyone who care to see, that a treaty or a covenant violated by the other party is no longer binding on Muslims once the violation takes place.

The Qur'an comments on this encounter and makes it absolutely clear that whatever the Muslims did, mobilizing their forces and besieging the Jews in their strongholds, was only a secondary element in the whole affair. It was Allah who directly conducted this encounter and brought about the conclusion to which it led. The 59th *surah* of the Qur'an, entitled *Al-Hashr* or "The Exile", was revealed shortly after this encounter and commented on several aspects of it laying down general principles for the Muslims to implement in their dealings with other people. It first reminds the Muslims that they were not called upon to fight to Jews in order to accomplish their evacuation. It was He that drove the unbelievers among the people of earlier revelations out of their homes into the first exile. You did not think that they would go; and they, for their part, fancied that their strongholds would protect them from Allah. But Allah reached them whence they did not expect, and cast terror in their hearts so that they destroyed their homes with their own hands and the hands of the believers. Learn from their examples, you that have eyes. (59:2) Here we have an absolutely clear statement that the Muslims themselves did not expect the Jews of Al-Nadheer to be evacuated. This is because of the strength and forces that the Jews did possess. We can imagine then what task the Muslims would have had on their hands had the hypocrites fulfilled their promise and raised a force of two thousand men to support the Jews of Al-Nadheer and had the other Jews of Quraybah come also to their support. Allah, however, prevented such gathering of forces which might have caused the morale of the Muslims to sink down, considering that memories of their setbacks were still fresh in their minds.

The Qur'an also states that the only factor which caused the Jews of Al-Nadheer to succumb to the rule of the Prophet was the fact that Allah cast terror in their hearts. After all, no fighting took place, and the forts of the Jews constituted an impenetrable stronghold. They themselves thought that there was no force which could penetrate through their stronghold. But they did not reckon with the force of Allah and that He accomplishes whatever He wills. Hence they did not take any precaution against what might have come from within themselves. They could not guard against fear possessing them so suddenly that they could do nothing but surrender. This is the way Allah accomplishes His purpose. Since He knows everything and is able to do what He wants, and since He has the means and the tools for accomplishing His purpose, and since the cause and the effort are of His own making, and the means and the end of His own creation, then nothing can stop Him and nothing can be too difficult for Him. He is indeed the Almighty, the Wise. When the Jews of Al-Nadheer retreated into their forts and thought that these forts will protect them against their enemies, defeat came to them from within themselves when Allah cast fear into their hearts which resulted in their destruction of their own homes with their own hands.

We have mentioned that the Prophet ordered his companions to cut down and to burn some of the palm trees which belonged to the Jews of Al-Nadheer. They were shocked at this action and sent him a message reminding him that he used to deplore such actions by other leaders. The Prophet did not bother with their representation. The Prophet's companions felt uneasy about this. It was totally uncharacteristic of the Muslims to cut trees and ruin farms as conquering armies did and still do. Allah tells them in the Qur'an that He himself has sanctioned their action. Whatever palm trees you cut down or left standing on their roots, it was by Allah's leave, so that He might humiliate the evildoers. (59:5)

Indeed the Muslims were never allowed to indulge in such action of burning and destruction except in this instance. Hence, this verse reassures them that it was Allah who wanted them to do it. After all, He had taken charge of this encounter and conducted it in the way He wished in order to achieve His own purpose. Hence, everything that took place was with His own permission. The purpose of cutting the palm trees and leaving some of them standing was simply to cause humiliation to the evildoers, meaning the Jews of Al-Nadheer.

Their hearts were indeed broken to see their palm trees cut and burned. They were even more heartbroken when they had to evacuate Madinah and to leave their farms

and orchards, including all their remaining palm trees, behind and to let the Muslims enjoy them as they wished. Then, it was to cause them all this humiliation and sorrow that the trees were cut and burnt and the orchards and the farms were confiscated.

In our account of this encounter between the Muslims and the Jews we mentioned that the Prophet divided the land and property left by the Jews after their surrender among the Muhajireen only of his companions. Only two persons of the Ansar, Sahl ibn Haneef and Abu Dujanah, were included. This was a departure from the established rule of sharing the spoils of war and, therefore, needs an explanation.

In Badr the spoils of war were the result of a major clash between the Muslims and the unbelievers which involved the Muslims in fighting very hard. The encounter with Al-Nadheer Jews, on the other hand, did not require the Muslims to do any fighting. No one raised a sword and no fighting took place. Hence the property gained by the Muslims as a result of Al-Nadheer encounter is of a different category altogether and cannot have the same treatment as the spoils of war. This type of gain is known in the Islamic terminology as *fay*, the established principle is that *fay*, i.e. gains which the Muslims acquire without fighting, belongs to the Muslim state. The way it is shared out is explained in the Qur'an: *That which Allah gives as *fay* to His messenger from the people of the townsships, it is for Allah and His messenger and for the near of kin and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer, so that it (wealth) does not become the property of only the rich among you. Whatever the messenger gives you, take it, and whatever he forbids you, abstain from it.* (59:7)

This verse makes it clear that *fay* belongs in total to the Muslim state. It is for the ruler to share it out among those who have a claim to it, according to his discretion. We have to explain that the term "the near of kin" used in this verse refers to the relatives of the Prophet. They do not have a share in *zakah* and cannot inherit the Prophet. Hence they are compensated by their share of *fay*.

The verse also establishes a far reaching rule of the Islamic economic and social system. It is the rule which makes it absolutely clear that wealth must not be confined to the rich. Islam acknowledges private ownership but qualifies it with this rule which makes it clear that the poor have a claim to a share in the wealth of the community. Hence, whatever situation or system results in money being monopolized by the rich, or any class of society, is not in line with the Islamic economic theory and system. Hence, financial dealings and relations within Islamic society must be so organized as not to create such a situation, or allow it to continue if it happens to exist.

The way the Prophet divided the *fay* which was gained from the Jews of Al-Nadheer must be seen in the light of this general rule. The Muhajireen, who emigrated from Makkah leaving behind all their property, were still a burden to their Ansari brothers. Some of them, it is true, managed to find work and become independent, but the majority were still sharing with their Ansari brethren whatever they had. Now, the Prophet had a chance to rectify the situation. He called the Ansar and spoke to them, praising their kindness and generosity and the way they treated their Muhajireen brothers. He then said to them: *"I will divide this *fay* Allah has bestowed on me from Al-Nadheer tribe among you and the Muhajireen alike, if you so desire. In this case they will continue to live with you in your own houses and have a share in your money. Alternatively, I will divide the *fay* among them only and they will leave your homes, if you so prefer."*

Sa'ad ibn Ubadah and Sa'ad ibn Mu'ath, the two leaders of the Ansar said: *"You divide it among them and we are happy to have them continue living in our houses as they are now."* The rest of the Ansar endorsed their leader's decision and the Prophet prayed for them and for their children. The two men of the Ansar who were also given a share of the *fay*, namely, Sahl ibn Haneef and Abu Dujanah, were poor. Apparently, they were the only two poor people among the Ansar and in consideration of their poverty they had a share of the *fay*. It is clear then that the Prophet wanted to correct an imbalance which existed in the Muslim community. The Muhajireen did not deserve to be favored with the *fay* on any grounds other than their poverty. It is up to any Muslim ruler to identify the poor in his community and to distribute among them whatever *fay* he may have.

(To be continued next Friday)

## EVENTS OF ISLAMIC HISTORY 018 AH

— The year began on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 639 CE.

— Bilal the Muzna of Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) called the first Azan for Friday prayer in Damascus.

— Ayad bin Ghassam conquered Harrah, Rabha and Raqqa in the north.

— Caliph Umar visited 'Sham' a second time to arrange the affairs of northern command after the death of Abu Ubaidah al-Jarrah and returned to Madinah in Zilqada.

— Caliph Umar permitted Amr ibn al-As to undertake the Egyptian campaign. The Muslim forces conquered Al-Arish on 10th Zilhijja, the day of Eid al-Adha.

— The northern command was transferred from Abu Ubaidah al-Jarrah to Mas'ud bin Jabal al-Ansari, then to Amr ibn al-As, then to Yazid bin Sufyan and then to Mu'awiyah bin Sufyan.

— A severe famine gripped Hijaz. Caliph Umar spent the reserves of Baitul Mal and supported the people. He reduced his own diet to bare bread with oil and vinegar.

— Caliph Umar invited Abbas bin Abdul Muttalib and offered Salet for rain, and it rained heavily before they could reach home.

— Abu Tariq Hijazi

## As bad light restricts play

## Sharma, Sandhu stem the rot at Kingston

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Feb. 24 (AP) — An unbroken eighth-wicket partnership of 92 between Yashpal Sharma and Balwinder Singh Sandhu pulled India out of a disastrous plight — from 127 for seven to 219 for seven at the end of the first day of the first cricket Test match against the West Indies here Wednesday.

When heavy clouds caused play to be abandoned 50 minutes before the scheduled close because of poor light, Yashpal was batting on 46 after a fighting innings which started with India at 66 for three 40 minutes before lunch, and Sandhu, a tall, slim all-rounder, was on 62.

The Indians, sent in to bat after Clive Lloyd had won the toss in his 50th Test as West Indies captain, appeared likely to make use of ideal batting conditions when Sunil Gavaskar, their experienced and top-scoring opening batsman, and in-form Mohinder Amar-

nath added 48 for the second wicket.

But when they were out within eight runs of each other, Amarnath for 29 and Gavaskar for 20, the first two of the five catches for wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon, the innings went into decline.

From a lunchtime 84 for three, India slipped to 127 for seven as one batsman after another fell to injudicious strokes against the West Indies pace quartet of Michael Holding, Andy Roberts, Joel Garner and Malcolm Marshall.

Roberts removed Dilip Vengsarkar, twice dropped when 18, to a catch at cover for 30 and had Indian captain Kapil Dev caught off a mistimed hook stroke for five. Holding added the wicket of Ravi Shastri to that of Anshuman Gaekwad he had got earlier, and Sandhu partnered Yashpal when Syed Kirmani fell to Marshall at 127 for seven.

Apart from two mistimed hooks which fell just out of reach of Larry Gomes at deep backward-square-leg and a few edged strokes off Holding, Sandhu batted without trouble. Sandhu, batting with a blue helmet over his turban, had some trouble with the short, lifting ball but was never flustered. Nothing troubled Yashpal, well padded with a guard on his left forearm, a chest protector bulging from under his shirt and a helmet. When play ended, he had been batting three hours 35 minutes without belch and had hit six fours.

The partnership, now worth 92, is only two runs off the ninth-wicket record for India set by Bapu Nadkarni and Farook Engineer on this same ground in 1962.

## Score-board

India (1st innings)	
S. Gavaskar c Dujon b Marshall	20
A. Gaekwad c Dujon b Holding	1
M. Amarnath c Dujon b Garner	29
D. Vengsarkar c Richards b Roberts	30
Y. Sharma batting	46
R. Shastri c Dujon b Holding	1
Kapil Dev c Marshall b Roberts	5
S. Kirmani c Dujon b Marshall	5
B.S. Sandhu batting	62
Extras	219
Total (for 7 wickets)	219
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-58, 3-66, 4-98, 5-99, 6-104, 7-127.	
Bowling: Holding 18-3-42-2; Roberts 17-2-50-2; Garner 15-4-37-1; Marshall 15-4-34-2; Gomes 9-0-36-0; Richards 1-1-0-0.	

## Runaway victory for EPCA

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, Feb. 24 — Eastern Province Cricket Association (EPCA) select XI emphasized their superiority over the Riyadh Cricket League (RCL) selection with a crushing innings and 29-run victory in the annual Inter-City clash last weekend. The win saw EPCA retain custody of the trophy which they had won by virtue of their first innings' lead in Dhahran last year.

Khalid Khan called the coin correctly and gained first use of the strip for EPCA. But EPCA were rocked early with the exit of their prolific openers Gulam Shabbir and Hassan Ali. But one-drop bat Jalal Akbar set about to repair the innings and he succeeded admirably. He shared in two valuable stands while posting a brilliant century.

Akbar's 135 proved to be the base on which EPCA built their mammoth 316 for nine declared. But it was the fiery 61 by Khalid Khan, who came ahead in the batting

order to live up to the rate, in the end proved valuable. Compared to Akbar's 135, which included two sixes and 13 fours, Khalid's 61 was carved out of five sixers and five fours in the five overs he faced. Khalid's blistering innings enabled EPCA to close just few minutes from close and make an attempt at grabbing an early wicket.

But RCL thwarted their efforts by seeing out the day without blemish. Mushtaq, who had taken five for 71 in EPCA's innings, and Anwar Engineer saw RCL to 51 before Ejaz Ahmed broke through on the next day. RCL were then 92 for two.

RCL, forced to follow on, did not fare any better in the second. However, this time it was the pacemen who did the damage. Ejaz Ahmed (six for 31) and Karim Jan (three for 39) ripped through the heart of RCL's batting and skittled them for 145. Ejaz's splendid second innings spell fetched him the man-of-the-match award.



CAUGHT OFF GUARD: Top-seeded Jimmy Connors, who went down to unheralded Mike Bauer in the second round of the Congoleum Classic at La Quinta Wednesday, is seen above effecting a backhand stroke. Connors confessed later, that he was caught off guard by Bauer's powerful serves.

## Despite being ill Bird pecks Lakers' progress

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 (AP) — Larry Bird felt miserable and made the Los Angeles Lakers feel even worse.

The Boston Celtics' superstar, playing 46 of 48 minutes despite a severe upset stomach, had 32 points, 17 rebounds, nine assists and four steals to lead the Celtics to a 113-104 victory over the defending National Basketball Association champions Wednesday night.

Elsewhere in the NBA, New Jersey crushed Chicago 119-86, Philadelphia bombed Dallas 133-101, Cleveland edged Golden State 99-98, New York trimmed Detroit 120-107, San Antonio beat Portland 124-114 and Kansas City tripped Washington 113-107.

76ers 133, Mavericks 101: Julius Erving scored 24 points, Moses Malone hit 10 of 11 shots for 23 points and Andrew Toney added 21 as Philadelphia beat Dallas for its 17th straight home triumph.

Spurs 124, Blazers 114: Mike Mitchell scored 32 points despite sitting out the entire fourth quarter as San Antonio stopped Portland's five-game winning streak. The Trail Blazers jumped to a 25-14 lead behind 10 points by Jim Paxson, but the Spurs scored 34 of the next 45 points for a 48-37 advantage.

Kings 113, Bulls 107: Larry Drew scored 28 points and Mike Woodson 21 to pace Kansas City over Washington. Jeff Ruland, who has scored 99 points his last three games, had a career-high 37 points and added 14 rebounds for the Bulls.

## For a dream win Unheralded Mike Bauer powers way past Connors

LA QUINTA, California, Feb. 24 (AP) — Unheralded Mike Bauer abruptly ended Jimmy Connors' hot streak Wednesday, downing the world's top-ranked player 6-3, 6-4 in the \$255,000 Congoleum Tennis Classic.

Bauer, ranked 89th in the world, featured a strong serving game, scoring seven aces against Connors, the tournament's top seed. It was the biggest victory in the pro career of Bauer, a 23-year-old from Lafayette, California. Now in his fourth year on the pro circuit, he won two tournaments last year — at Bangkok, Thailand, and Adelaide, Australia.

Connors, who was going for his third consecutive tournament title, said, "Nobody's perfect. I couldn't keep my mind on my business during the match." He called Bauer's serve "overpowering."

An elated Bauer, who had never played Connors before, said, "I'm living a dream right now. It's going to take a while to sink in. I couldn't believe that I had match point against Jimmy Connors." Bauer won the last three games of the first set, then rallied from a 2-3 deficit in the second set to win four of the next five games.

Second-seeded Yannick Noah of France had no trouble in his second-round match with Canada's Glenn Michibata, breezing to a 6-1, 6-2 triumph.

Spain's Jose Higueras, the No. 3 seed, also scored a one-sided victory, downing Max Anger 6-2, 6-1. Eliot Teltscher, the fourth seed, advanced to the next round without playing, winning by default when Bob Lutz withdrew because of a virus.

The winner of Sunday's final will earn \$32,000, with the runnerup getting \$16,000. Meanwhile, Argentina's Guillermo Vilas fought off Buster Mottram 2-6, 6-1, 6-2 to advance to the quarterfinals of the \$300,000 WCT Gold Coast Championship.

Vilas, the No. 2 seed, avoided the fate of three of the event's top four seeds during the

first two rounds, but it wasn't easy as he struggled past Mottram in two hours and two minutes.

Mottram played steady tennis to win the first set, but Vilas swept through the second with little difficulty and then broke Mottram's service in the fifth and seventh games to win the final at Laver's International Tennis Resort.

In other second-round matches, Czechoslovakia's Pavel Skrdl defeated Tim Gullikson 6-7, 6-0, 7-6; Eric Fromm ousted Peter Fleming 4-6, 7-6, 6-2 and Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia beat France's Dominique Odell 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Eddie Dibbs defeated past Van Winitsky 6-3, 6-1; South Africa's-born Johan Kriek defeated Jimmy Arias 6-4, 4-6, 6-1; and Sweden's Henrik Sundstrom beat Tom Cain 6-1, 6-1. The list of seeded players was reduced to three, when No. 6 seed Bill Scanlon was beaten by Brazilian Cassio Motta 6-4, 7-6 (7-3) in a late action.

In Kanan, Vilas Gerulaitis, Heinz Gunthardt, Magnus Edman, and Rod Flinney, the top four seeds in the \$75,000 Marriott International Open advanced to the quarterfinals. Vilas, Gerulaitis, Edman, and Flinney, 8, lost to No. 1 seed, singles finalist, Zoltan Kierulff 6-3, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3.

Unseeded, but popular star, Vicky Ammiraj of India, who's second round battle with Stanislas Bener of Czechoslovakia 6-2, 5-7, 6-4, while Gerulaitis showed exceptional precision in disposing of Mike Brunner 6-2, 6-1. In two days and four sets, Gerulaitis has lost only six games. The No. 2 seed, Heinz Gunthardt, Switzerland, also had a relatively effortless win, beating Robert Reminger (Australia) 6-3, 6-3. It was much longer for the No. 3 seed, Magnus Edman (Sweden), who fought back from a 2-1 deficit in the second set to defeat John Van Nostrand 6-7 (9-7), 7-5, 6-3. Rod Flinney (Australia), the No. 4 seed, put down David Siegel 1-6, 6-3, 6-1.

## Tracy sweeps Iva off her feet

OAKLAND, California, Feb. 24 (AP) — Top-seeded Tracy Austin breezed through the second round of the \$150,000 Virginia Slims of California, beating Iva Bodorova of Czechoslovakia, 6-1, 6-1, Wednesday night to reach the quarterfinals of the tennis tournament.

Austin lost the second game of the first set, and the third game went to deuce three times. But from that point on, she broke her opponent's serve six straight times.

West Germany's Claudia Kohde upset third-seeded Hana Mandlikova 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a first-round match. Kohde capitalized on her powerful serves and forehand shots to win five straight games after trailing 3-1 in the third set.

The 19-year-old Kohde is undefeated in years ago, she beat Martina Navratilova in

the first round of the Oakland Tournament. Engaging Sue Barker, who returned to tournament competition recently after a three-month break, won her first-round match, beating Andrea Leand 6-3, 6-2.

The 26-year-old Barker had to win a qualifying match Monday to place in the 32-player tournament field. She was ranked among the world's top 10 women players a few years ago, but now is ranked 53rd. By winning Wednesday, Barker advanced to a second-round meeting, scheduled Thursday night, against second seed Pam Shriver.

Other winners Wednesday afternoon included fifth-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany and sixth-seeded Bettina Bunge, U.S. Hanika won a second-round match and Bunge won a first-round match.

## Scottish rugby side wears new look

LONDON, Feb. 24 (AFP) — Scotland have dropped four players and changed their captain for the Five-Nation Rugby Union match with England at Twickenham here Saturday week.

The new captain is gala prop Jim Aitken, who takes over from scrum-half Roy Laidlaw. Out of the team that lost at home to Wales on Saturday — Scotland's third defeat of the season — go both locks Alan Tomes and Bill Cuthbertson, center David Johnston and stand-off Bryan Gossman.

Aitken's club colleague Tom Smith, a former basketball player, will win his first cap in the second row where he will be partnered by Iain Paxton, whose 11 previous appearances have all been at No. 8.

Stand-off John Rutherford, so badly missed this season, is now considered fit enough to return, while Keith Robertson switches to the center to give Gossford's Jim Pollock his second cap on the right wing. Laidlaw, 29, became captain at the start of the year and although he marked his first match in charge with a try against Ireland, Scotland still lost 15-13.

Meanwhile, Nigel Melville, England's new scrum-half, was unable to take part in the England Rugby Union squad training session

in Stourbridge. He had been treated by the physiotherapist for an ankle injury and it was decided that he should not train because of the freezing ground.

The 22-year-old Yorkshireman will miss Wales' John Player Cup tie against West Haverfordwest on Saturday. "But that is nothing to do with my injury," Melville hastened to explain, adding, "I should have been fit to play but have been afforded the usual courtesy before winning my first cap."

Northampton prop Gary Pearce played a full part in the workout and has now almost fully recovered from the injury which ruled him out of last Saturday's postponed match against Coventry.

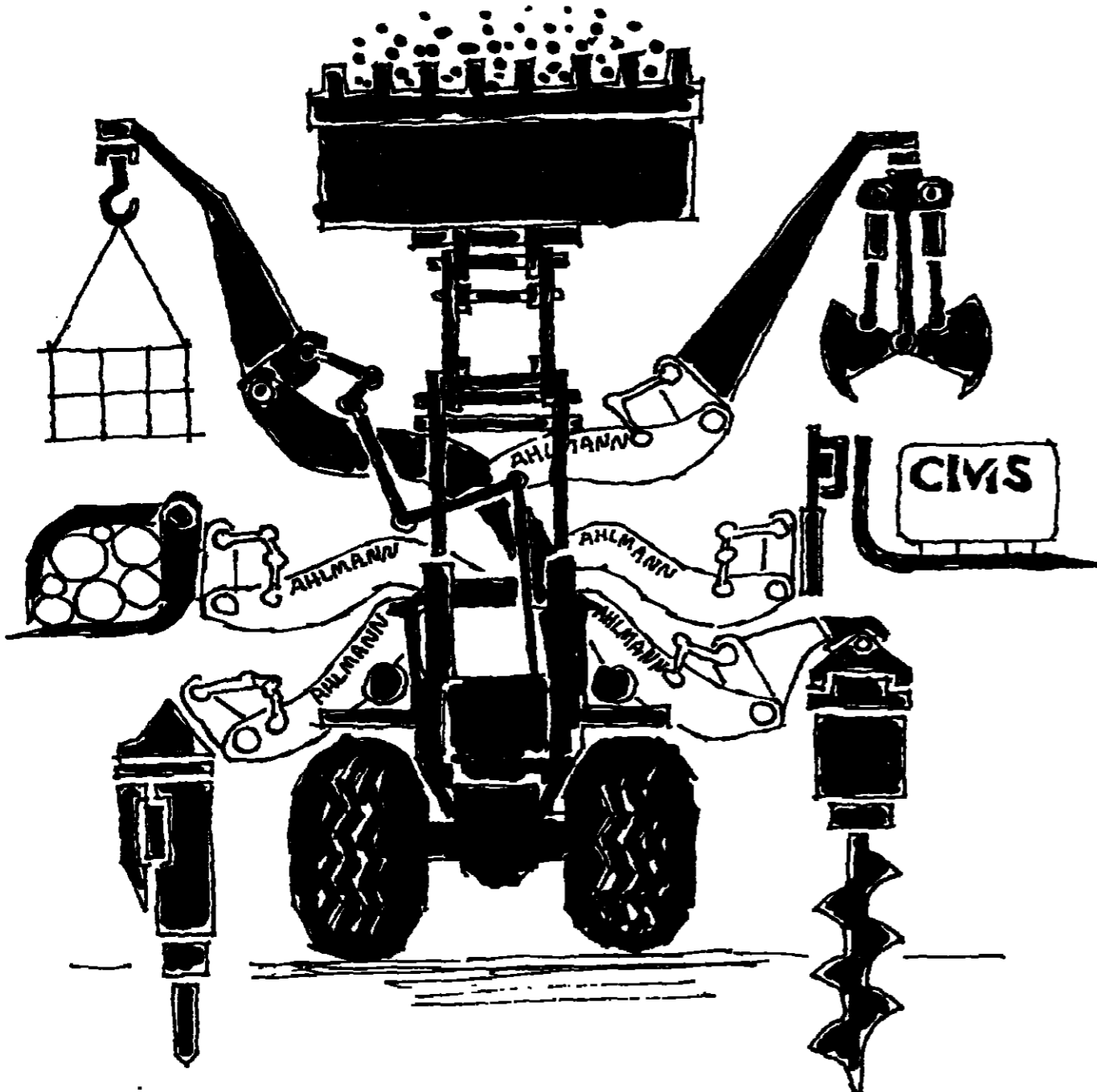
The only absentees were lock forward Steve Bainbridge and reserve No. 8 Bob Hesford. Bainbridge has an ankle injury but it is not regarded as serious and Hesford has been laid low by a virus.

Their places in the training session were taken by Brian Kidner, the 20-year-old Coventry lock forward, and Jeremy Macklin, Cambridge University's No. 8.

Great Britain named an unchanged team from that which beat France 20-5 in Carcassonne on Sunday for the return match in Hull on March 6, it was reported in Leeds.

## A DRAGON MAY HAVE 7 HEADS.

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## Real Madrid nipped

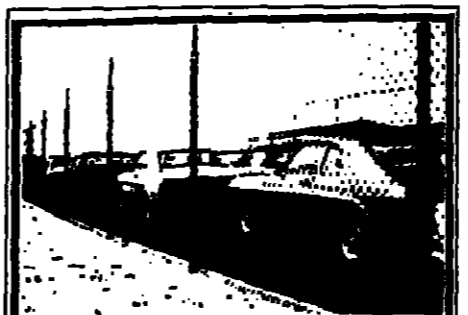
CANTU, Italy, Feb. 24 (AP) — Italy's Ford Cantu downed Spain's Real Madrid 84-78 in their return-match of the European Cup of Champions final round here Wednesday night.

The Italian team virtually clinched one place for the grand-finales of the prestigious basketball tournament scheduled in Grenoble, France, on March 23. The home victory gave Ford an overall lead of 12 points, out of eight matches.

The Spanish team, which led 45-43 at halftime, was left with 10 points. It was a close, hard-fought match which Ford won in the final stages, when the Yugoslav aces of Real Madrid, Drazen Dalipagic and Mirza Delibasic, were unable to keep the initial rhythm and a sensational average of score. Dalipagic and Delibasic scored 22 and 20 points respectively. The top scorer of the match was Ford's Antonello Riva with 25 points.

Brewer, a former professional player, was excellent on rebounds in the first half and along with Riva managed to keep Ford's score within a gap of four points when the Spanish team seemed heading toward a clearcut victory.

Wednesday night's defeat compromised Real's chances to reach the two-team grand-finales. The Spanish team will play a decisive match against Billy in Milan on Thursday next week.



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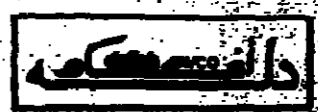
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# Dog Detective Ranjha

## Case of the hidden earring — 2

By Partap Sharma

A dog is always faster than a man. I had leapt past Woof and straight at the village headman before he could look up. As I threw him to the ground and took the cold steel of the gun in my jaws, a thunderous explosion shook the barrel. I had half wrenched the gun out of the man's hand but now it went flying with the force of the bang. I was also flung aside. I had been trained not to be afraid of gunfire or crackers but I had never known the roar and power of a gun going off while I was holding it. The terrible noise and the effect of it was so awesome that for a moment I thought I was dying. As I got up, dazed and deafened, I saw that the man was getting up too. The woman was screaming. Woof was moaning on the ground.

I went straight to Woof and sniffed at him and licked his face. I forgot everything else. I was terrified that Woof was hurt. Perhaps it was a mistake to worry just then about Woof but I couldn't help it. I didn't mind being shot and killed but I had to see to Woof. The gun was lying by Woof's head. It looked as if he had been struck by the wooden butt.

The woman was shouting and screaming. She had picked up a thick chunk of firewood and was coming toward me. Her husband was now picking up the gun.

Woof said weakly, "Attack." And then he closed his eyes and slumped. I sniffed at him. He was breathing all right. He was just unconscious. He had asked me to attack.

That was the ultimate command I could be given. That meant Woof was in grave danger. I had to do everything I could to save him. I had to prevent them from injuring Woof. It took me less than a second to act on Woof's command.

But worried as I was, I was too late. The woman hit me with the chunk of wood. She must have been quite unnerfed by events or perhaps she was frightened of me. She missed my head and the blow caught me on the back. I snarled and jumped. I had her by the arm and hung on. She shrieked and tried to pry me loose but I had been trained to hang on even if I was lifted off the ground and whirled in a circle. The man had the gun now and was shouting to her but he couldn't fire because he was afraid of hitting her. Then I became aware of people running toward us from the big house and some were running along the road.

The woman fainted and fell down. I released her. As I turned, I saw that Woof was trying to sit up and the man was about to shoot at me.

Woof gasped, "Ranjha, down!" There was such urgency in his voice though it was low that I immediately flopped down. Just then there was another deafening explosion and something whistled over my head.

The man clicked open the barrel and threw down two smoking cartridge cases, then he ran towards the hit. He was going for more ammunition but by now four or five persons had arrived on the scene. He seemed undecided whether to stay or run. Then, amazingly, he sat down on a step and putting the gun aside took his head in his hands. People were gathering round now and asking what was happening. He said nothing.

They helped Woof to get up and they threw cold water on the woman's face and revived her.

They looked at me, still in the down position, and wondered whether I was to blame for the trouble. Some said aloud that I had probably been raiding the man's chickens, others said that I had most likely attacked the woman for no reason.

"What a lovely dog!" a child's voice said quite inappropriately at that moment. I looked and saw that three well-dressed children had come along with their parents from the house at the farther end of the compound.

While the father of the children stepped into the center of the growing circle and asked, "What's going on here?", one of the children made friendly noises in my direction. Even in the down position, I couldn't help wagging my tail. It thumped the ground. That made the children laugh. I began to feel more relaxed. They came up and began to pet me. I felt better. At least someone in the crowd seemed to be on my side.

Woof was explaining what had happened. The father of the children listened and then said, "I must thank you for what you've done. I've never really trusted this fellow or his wife. He's supposed to be the gardener of this bungalow but he spends all his time being the terror of his village in the valley. His wife does the washing for the house. We've been losing odd bits of jewelry ever since we bought this place and started coming up for the school holidays. Somehow we could never work up the courage to sack this couple. This fellow is such a bully around here that I was ... well, in a way, frightened of accusing them on mere suspicion. By the way, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Desai. My wife. My children."

Mrs. Desai joined her palms and greeted Woof and thanked him.

Mr. Desai said that hearing the first gunshot he had phoned the police. He said he was going to hand the gardener and his wife over to the police.

Now the gardener stood up and looked down at everyone across the bridge of his nose.

"What a lot of rubbish is being talked!" he said. "What accusations are being flung! What threats of action against a poor, innocent man and his wife! If Mr. Desai wants me to leave his employ, I will. My wife and I will go away this very minute. But I will not have my good name tarnished. The police know me to be an honest man. The name of my family is being threatened for other reasons. This is a frame-up. Mr. Desai is against me for certain deep reasons which I shall explain later. I know things about him. That is why he wants to ruin my good name. No jewelry was ever lost as far as I know. This is the first I'm hearing of it. For that matter, where is this precious earring that is supposed to have been brought back by this young man?"

The police had arrived in the middle of this speech and now an Inspector came forward and took charge of the situation.

The crowd had grown and was murmuring.

Mrs. Desai was exclaiming at the amazing audacity of the gardener in trying to lie his way out of the whole thing. Mr. Desai was spluttering and fuming.

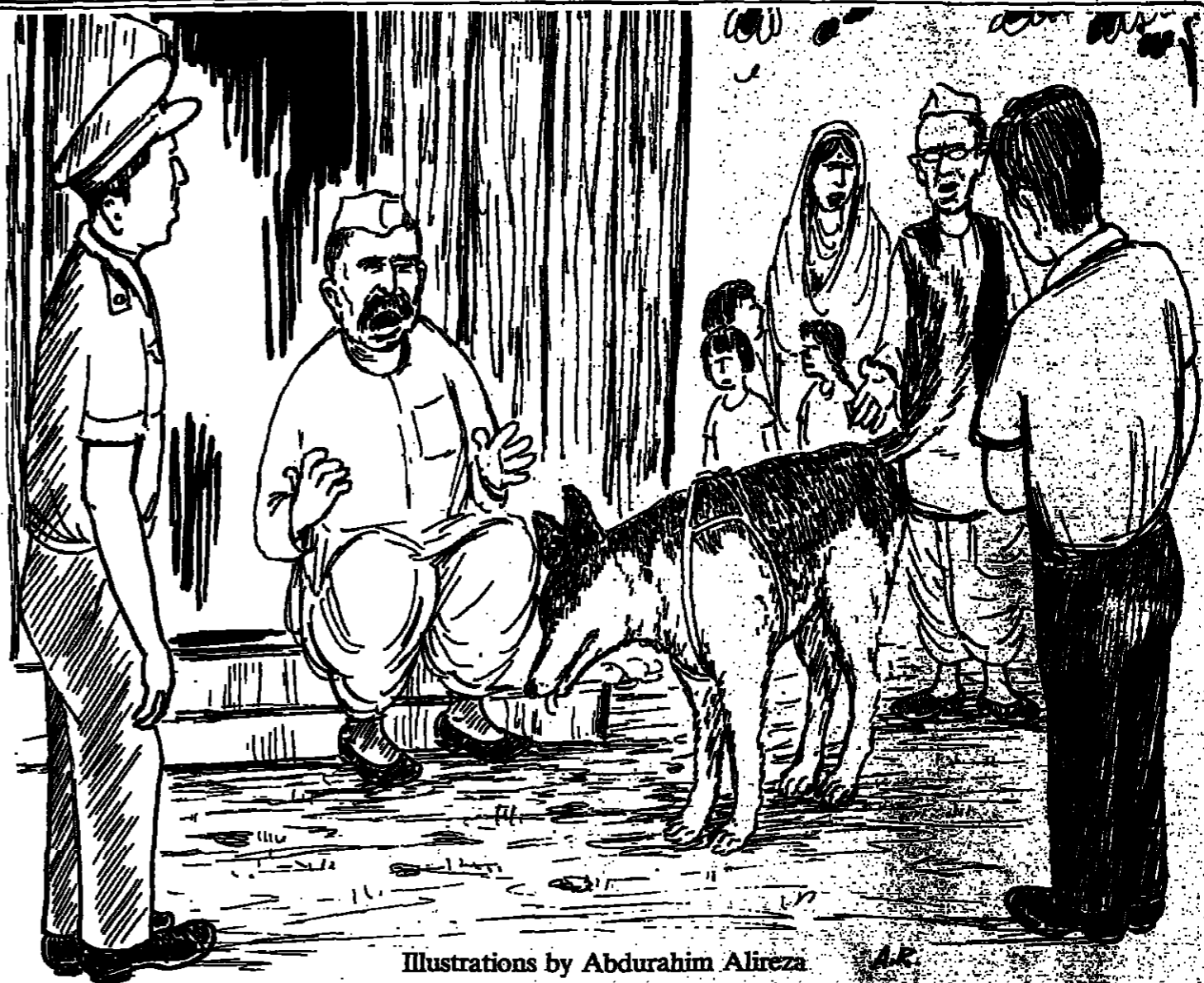
Woof made a full statement of what had happened.

The Inspector listened to all that was being said. When Woof gave his name, the Inspector said, "Ah yes, I've heard of you and your dog. I wasn't on duty the night of the riot in the bazaar but my colleagues have told me how you helped. Now, the first thing, of course, is — where is the earring which you say you found?"

Everyone began to scan the ground for the earring.

The gardener said, "There's no point looking for the ornament. It doesn't exist. It's all a lot of lies to put me in a bad light with my people."

The Inspector called out to everybody to stay where they were. Then he began to look around by the hut for the earring. The gardener laughed sarcastically.



Illustrations by Abdurahim Alireza

"Excuse me, Inspector," Woof said. "May I suggest that we ask the dog to search for it?"

"The dog!" the Inspector exclaimed. "How would he find it?"

"There is a way," said Woof.

"Don't tell me he knows the meaning of the word earring!"

"No, Inspector, he doesn't. He places as much value on an earring as on a piece of wood or a bit of stone. But I've just thought of a way by which he can find it."

"Hm. All right. No harm in trying. And if there is such an earring about, at least he won't be tempted to pocket it!"

"Ranjha, come," Woof called.

I went to him. He cupped his hands over my nose, giving me his own scent; then he asked me to seek and fetch. I began to sniff the ground in the direction in which he pointed.

"I see," said the Inspector. "Very clever. Quite sensible. Since you threw the earring and since you carried it all the way here, it'll still have your scent on it."

"Right," said Woof and I imagine he must have smiled but I didn't look at him to find out. I was busy with the task I had been set.

I sniffed over the patch of ground and in a few seconds I located the spot, where the object had lain. But it had been moved — perhaps by the scrambling about during the struggle, or perhaps because someone had picked it up. Close by was the step on which the gardener had sat with his head in his hands. The smell of the gardener's footwear was mingled with Woof's scent on the spot where the earring had been. That meant the gardener had placed his feet close to or over the earring. However, my job was just to sniff, the conclusions were to be left to Woof. So I continued to sniff about in widening circles. I was sniffing various shoes and sandals and feet now. Woof assured people that there was no risk to them. They stood still. But as I approached the shoes of the gardener, he began to move and complain.

agitated. "The dog is dangerous. I tell you. He attacked me and then he attacked my wife. He ... he ... don't let him come near me!"

He was moving about, taking short steps. It annoyed me. I knew now that the earring was tucked between his left foot and the shoes he was wearing. It must have hurt the sole of his foot. I suppose he'd picked up the earring with his bare foot, taking it up between his toes, while he sat there on the step. Now I made a determined grab for his shoes. It came off and out tumbled the earring. I carried it to Woof.

The children burst into spontaneous applause. My tail couldn't help wagging. Everyone else joined in with the children and clapped. It was like being at some kind of public demonstration.

"I hope the applause doesn't go to his head," Woof said, laughing.

People were chuckling and murmuring, but all this while, the gardener had been sliding away. No one expected him to make a run for it. After all, his wife was still there standing in the verandah of their quarters. But perhaps some kind of panic seized him; perhaps he had decided to abandon his wife to her fate. If they had stolen many things over the years, they must have a tidy sum hidden away somewhere. Perhaps his intention was to escape out of the district entirely.

Anyway, he didn't get far, not even as far as the clearing beyond the road. Everyone took off after him but being a tall man with a big stride he easily outpaced them. Then Woof said, quite casually now, "Ranjha, arrest!" and waved me in the fleeing gardener's direction.

As I said before, a dog is much faster than human beings.

I must admit that the applause this time did go a little to my head. I leapt all over the children and adults as they petted me and I kissed them.

(To be continued next Friday)

## Chicken and mushroom

By Jennifer Moore

JEDDAH — No matter where you live in the Kingdom, you are never too far from a carryout chicken shop. Whether you prefer it broasted or roasted, chicken is an affordable treat. Also, once the skin has been removed, chicken becomes low in calories and high in nutritional values.

The spit-roasted whole chicken, selling at most shops at SR10 apiece, is generally enough to satisfy two persons. The wise host or hostess can plan ahead: purchasing two at a time ensures having enough chicken for another meal.

An order of broasted chicken costs the same, or even a ryal or two less, than a whole-roasted chicken and generally comes with a heaping serving of French fries. But a serving usually consists of only two or three pieces of chicken. Although it makes a hearty meal, there is seldom any left over.

So let's consider a mouth-watering dish that features whole roasted chicken com-

bined with mushrooms, tarragon and other delicious ingredients. It's a dish that is bound to delight the family or guests at lunch time. The delight is bound to be no less for those who prepare it because of the price and the ease of preparation.

### Chicken and Mushroom Salad

2 cups cooked chopped chicken  
1 cup thin-sliced celery  
½ cup sliced almonds  
2 tablespoons of finely grated onion  
6 tablespoons of mayonnaise  
1 cup sliced mushrooms  
2 tablespoons of chopped tarragon  
pepper, salt and paprika to taste  
Combine the cooked chicken, onions, celery, almonds, mayonnaise and salt, pepper and paprika — mix together. In a saucepan, melt the butter and add the mushrooms, tarragon and pepper — and saute — do not boil. Once mushrooms are heated and soft, add to the chicken mixture. Serve on hot croissants, or, inside a halved avocado, or a partially hollowed tomato.

## Goats to fatten diet, pockets

By Arjuna

MANILA (Depthnews) — The target is not a chicken in every pot but a goat or two in every small farm.

Goat meat makes one of the more delicious dishes in the Philippines, be it the *caldarita* stew, or the *pinagutan*, a favorite in the North, especially the mountains where the bile and the spices combine to keep the cold nights warmer.

But a goat in a farmer's backyard is also a sign of "socio-economic mobility in rural areas," says a government technical worker. And the Philippines is seriously eyeing goats as a means to fatten the family's diet and pocket.

Goat meat is valuable enough. But the protein content of goat's milk, for instance, is richer than that of human or cow's milk. Its upkeep virtually costing nothing, a lactating doe, or she-goat, produces 66 kilograms of milk over a 187-day period on the average. The skin or hide, when tanned, means additional cash. Goat hide is made into shoes, leather jackets, ladies' handbags, and other leather playthings.

Not surprisingly, the government has

imported purebred bucks from Texas in the United States, to improve the local goat breed, particularly in milk production. The country's goat population, by the latest count, is close to 800,000. Some 99 percent of goat-raisers are small farmers.

Small farmer families are now lent breeding does which are replaced with an already weaned kid after they reproduce. The young goat represents payment for the loan of the she-goat. There is even a "buck loan facility" from which imported purebreds are lent for two years.

Government scientists figure that the goat dispersal project will need a gestation period of five years, at the earliest, "before its impact on socio-economic conditions in rural areas is seen or felt."

In a desperate effort to raise their standards of living, developing countries are banking their future on small items which have been overlooked in the mad rush for progress. Burma is trying to improve its elephant breeds, as Thailand is doing with its water buffaloes. So it is with ducks in China and cattle in India. Now the goat is a socio-economic indicator in the Philippines.

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## Amid starvation and squalor

# S. Africa whites turn black kids into slaves

LONDON, Feb. 24 (AP) — Black children as young as seven are forced to work long hours on South Africa's white-owned farms for little or no wages and in conditions of starvation and squalor, the Anti-Slavery Society said Thursday.

In an 80-page illustrated report on child labor in South Africa, the world's oldest human rights group said it was normal for young black children "to be transported by trucks from bantustans and distributed to white farms where cheap labor is needed."

One local teacher told an Anti-Slavery Society investigator: "It is camouflaged slave labor." The children either accepted the conditions of work or, because of the extreme poverty of their parents, they starved.

The children were often ill-fed and ill-housed by the white farmers, were paid partly or wholly in rotten fruit and worked from sunrise to sunset, the report said.

In the Nigel/Heidelberg area, "the Anti-Slavery Society found a team of about 20 children" some of whom appeared to be no older than nine (they did not know their ages), working in the rain in bean fields. That was at 7 a.m. At twilight they were still in the

same field," it said.

The society officials in the Sekhukhune-land district of Lebowa Bantustan told its investigator: "Almost anyone who requires cheap labor comes here to pick up young girls. They (local white farmers) pick up anyone from 10 years and upward to do anything from agricultural weeding to harvesting."

In one place the investigator found children sleeping in a hollow in the ground. In another, young girls slept in what appeared once to have been stables with holes in the wall for windows.

"There was no toilet or water facilities apart from an outside cold water tap," the report said. "There was no light and fires had to be made on the floors in winter for warmth and light." The children slept on cement beds built into the walls and their only blankets were those they had brought with them.

The Anti-Slavery Society, which has previously published reports on child labor in Morocco, India, Spain, Thailand, Italy and Jamaica, said there were few educational opportunities for black children in South Africa because of a lack of teachers and classrooms and because schooling for blacks was not equal to that of whites and was not free.

The Anti-Slavery Society blamed the situation on the white minority regime's apartheid (racial segregation) policies. "Black children are to be South Africa's labor force and the laws governing them are distinct from those pertaining to white children," the report said.

The Sekhukhune-land spokesman blamed the situation in his area on "incredible poverty, terrible congestion, unemployment and hunger" resulting from the government's policy of banning blacks from living in white areas and forcing them into poverty-stricken bantustans ("homelands").

The Anti-Slavery Society said that while agriculture was the main employer of young children in South Africa, they were also exploited as servants in white households — "where they are on call for virtually 24 hours a day" — in light industry and as street vendors in towns and cities.

It said that when a mature black maid-servant was asked in one interview how old she had been when she entered domestic service, she replied: "I don't know. I've been a slave for a long time."

## Viet hitchhikes to seek asylum

SINGAPORE, Feb. 24 (R) — A former Vietnamese Air Force pilot knocked on the door of the U.S. Embassy in Singapore after walking, swimming, hitchhiking and cycling his way across three countries to seek asylum, officials said Thursday.

They said Ly Van Tong, 34, who fought for the U.S.-backed Saigon government during the Vietnam War, astonished American officials with his account of how he trekked 1,600 miles over mountains and through jungles.

The U.S. Embassy said it had given an undertaking to Singapore authorities to resettle Tong. He would be sent to the United Nations refugee center on the Indonesian island of Galang before going on to the United States.

The former pilot completed the last leg of his journey with a one-and-a-half kilometer swim across the Johore Straits from Malaysia on Feb. 9, more than a year after leaving Indochina. He spent the night in a park then turned up on the embassy doorstep.



MASSACRE: Bodies of an entire village family, wiped out in last week's massacre in the Indian state of Assam, lie on the floor of their hut.

## Charged with crimes against humanity

# French judge informs Barbie of case

LYON, France, Feb. 24 (Agencies) — Judge Christian Riss, the magistrate overseeing the case against Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie, went to Saint Joseph Prison in Lyon Thursday to inform the defendant of the specific facts in the case against him.

Barbie, the former Gestapo chief in Lyon during the World War II German occupation of France, was expelled from Bolivia earlier this month and brought to France, where he has been charged with crimes against humanity.

The 69-year-old Barbie, known in France as "the butcher of Lyon," twice was condemned to death by postwar military courts in Lyon, but the statute of limitations on those sentences has expired and a new case must be developed.

Riss arrived at the central prison minutes after Alain De la Serrette, the head of the Lyon Bar Association who is handling Barbie's defense, Riss made no comment to reporters outside the prison, but De la Serrette said the meeting probably would take "several hours."

The government prosecutor in Lyon, Jean Berthier, announced "eight facts which presently are the object of the case opened against Klaus Barbie." They include the arrest, torture and murder of 294 persons and the roundup and deportation of about 650 persons, to the German concentration camps at Auschwitz and Ravensbruck.

Berthier said other infractions of the same nature that the investigation may turn up could be added to the case.

Excluded from the present case, however, he said, are all facts that had been used in the two earlier trials in 1952 and 1954. The prosecutor said he was not pursuing any evidence relating to the crimes committed against members of the French resistance, including its leader Jean Moulin who was tortured and killed, which he said were war crimes and not crimes against humanity.

Members of the resistance were fighting against the Vichy regime and the German occupiers and as such were voluntary combatants, thus could not be considered part of the civilian population, the prosecutor said.

The killing of 22 hostages in reprisal for an

## Poland detains ex-Solidarity men

KATOWICE, Poland, Feb. 24 (AP) — Police detained Kazimierz Switon and half a dozen other Solidarity labor union activists after a religious prayer held Wednesday in this southern Polish coal mining center to honor those detained under martial law.

Police also detained six accredited Western newsmen who attempted to attend the prayer, but released them when it was over. Switon, who was instrumental in organizing of free trade unions in Silesia five years ago, was approached by plainclothes men during the prayer and told to accompany them to city's police headquarters, his wife said.

Switon declined to leave during the ceremony but was detained outside later.

Lech Walesa, chief of outlawed labor federation had planned to attend but changed his mind a day before, citing mechanical problems with his automobile.

The heavy security at the Katowice prayer, which was attended by about 2,000, came after demonstrations in four Polish cities last week.

The charges against Switon are not clear, his wife said. However, the local communist daily *Trybuna Robotnicza* Monday published an attack on Switon accusing him of accepting money from Westerners to carry out unspecified actions.

attack on two German policemen in 1943.

The arrest and torture of 19 persons in 1943.

The deportation of 84 persons connected with the Lyons General Union of Jews.

The shooting of 42 persons in and around Lyons in 1943-44.

The roundup of French railway workers in which two were killed, several wounded and a number disappeared in 1944.

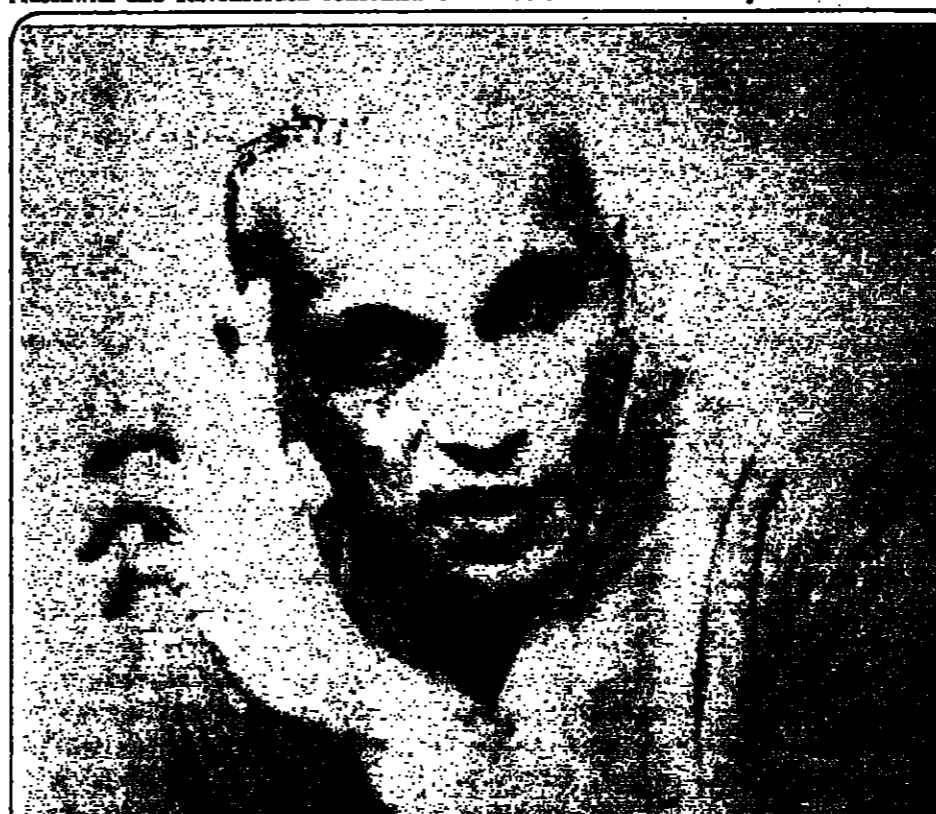
The deportation of 650 persons, to Auschwitz and Ravensbruck concentration

camps, the last shipment being on Aug. 11, 1944.

The shooting of 70 persons at Bron and two priests in Saint Genis Laval.

The deportation of up to 55 persons, mostly children, from the village of Izieu.

About 15 individuals and groups also have registered with the prosecutor's office to take part in the case as civil parties against Barbie. It was the second time that Riss has met with Barbie, the first time being Feb. 5, the day the defendant arrived in Lyon.



SEE THE STITCHES: Donald Wright points to the stitches on his scalp where he had a power drill bit imbedded 7.5 centimeters into his skull. After regaining consciousness, Wright looked in the mirror and turned the drill back on to remove the bit from his head. In hospital he underwent surgery to remove a bone fragment inside his skull. He was able to tell his tale Tuesday.

## Man drills back steel bit from skull

TORONTO, Feb. 24 (AP) — A building contractor stood in front of a bathroom mirror and carefully squeezed the trigger of a power drill to unscrew a steel bit that accidentally bored three inches (7.6 centimeters) into his right temple.

"I kept saying to myself, 'oh, my God, whatever I do I have to do right because any mistake could be fatal,'" 54-year-old David Wright said. Wright fell off a stepladder and knocked himself out Feb. 16 while working alone in an acquaintance's condominium.

Wright said from his hospital bed Tuesday the moment he regained consciousness he was sure he was dying but managed to struggle to his feet, desperately holding the drill steady with his hands. He walked to the bathroom and, with great concentration squeezed the drill's trigger and pulled the steel bit from his head.

Bleeding profusely, Wright left the apartment, switching off the lights and locking the door on the way out, and went to his apartment in the same building.

His wife called an ambulance and Wright was rushed to hospital where he underwent two operations in the next two days to remove a bone fragment from his brain. "I guess it just wasn't my time to die," said Wright.

## S. Africa-Angola talks end abruptly

PRAIA, Cape Verde, Feb. 24 (R) — Delegations from South Africa and Angola left Thursday after only three hours of talks on the conditions of peace along the Namibian (Southwest African)-Angolan border.

Diplomatic sources said the two sides talked only about border hostilities and did not touch on the problem of Namibian independence. But they agreed to meet again soon.

"The reason the talks did not produce more positive results was because of the weak South African representation," Angolan Interior Minister Alexandre Rodrigues said. Rodrigues went to Cape Verde but did not

take part in the talks because South Africa had sent a low-level delegation led by the foreign affairs director general, Hans van Dalsen.

In an interview with the Portuguese news agency Anop, Rodrigues said his delegation had come to the West African islands in the hope of speeding Namibian independence.

He said the meeting had been useful to readjust positions and added Angola did not go to the talks as a substitute for SWAPO (Southwest Africa People's Organization), which has fought a 16-year guerrilla war for Namibian independence.

## Burma keeps off summit

# at New Delhi

RANGOON, Burma, Feb. 24 (AP) — Burma, one of the founding members of the nonaligned movement of nations, will not be represented at the movement's upcoming summit in New Delhi, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

Burma pulled out of the movement at the Havana summit in September 1979, declaring it had lost its original objectives and could no longer be considered nonaligned. Some nations in Havana criticized the pro-Soviet hosts for "stage-managing" that meeting.

The spokesman denied reports that Burma was planning to rejoin the movement or would be sending an observer to the summit.

Speculation about Burma rejoining the movement began after the recent visit to Burma of Yugoslav President Peter Stambolic, who also visited Indonesia. Yugoslavia and Indonesia were also co-founders of the movement.

Burma, which steers a neutral course in international affairs, declined in Indian invitation for a Burmese press delegation to cover the New Delhi conference, the official said.

The fathers of the nonaligned movement — which began in the mid-1950s — are generally considered to include Presidents Sukarno of Indonesia and Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India, President Nasser of Egypt and U Nu of Burma.

Meanwhile nonaligned summit is expected to produce new expressions of regret over the slow progress toward Namibian independence and fresh denunciations of the apartheid regime in South Africa. AFP reports from New Delhi.

The two issues figure prominently in a 23-page draft communique prepared by host India, which will be considered in committee and by nonaligned foreign ministers before it goes on to leaders of the 97-member movement at their summit March 7-11.

A full two pages is devoted to Namibia, reaffirming support for the territory's right to self-determination and expressing "deep concern over the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist South African regime." It says Pretoria's policies constituted "a grave threat to international peace and security."

## Defeat forecast for U.K. Labor

LONDON, Feb. 24 (AP) — Opinion polls predicted a major defeat for the opposition Labor Party on Thursday in a special parliamentary election in east London's working class Bermondsey Dockland district.

An opinion poll in *The Sun* newspaper Thursday morning forecast that Labor candidate Peter Tatchell, 31-year-old radical on the far left wing of the ideologically-split party, would lose the seat to the centrist Social Democratic-Liberal Party alliance. Bermondsey has been a rock-solid Labor stronghold for the last 60 years.

The poll commissioned by *The Sun* from audience selection gave Tatchell, a social worker, 32 percent of the vote against a winning 42 percent for alliance candidate Simon Hughes, 51. Hughes, a lawyer, belongs to the Liberal Party.

Political commentators say an alliance win in Bermondsey could spell the political demise of Labor leader Michael Foot, 69. Foot is already under pressure to quit from some sections of his party, who say he is showing himself increasingly ineffectual against Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

## S. Pole trip planned

LONDON, Feb. 24 (R) — A new British group has announced plans to send 4,000 young explorers to destinations like South American jungles and the South Pole.

Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, is patron of the four-year, multimillion dollar project, called Operation Raleigh.

He said the experience of travel and hardship would help young people cope with problems in their own communities. The project will involve 1,500 young people from Britain, 1,700 from the United States, and 1,000 from other countries.

Led by Col. John Blashford-Snell, the first group, aged 17 to 24, will set sail in November next year.

## Tikhonov ends trip

ATHENS, Feb. 24 (Agencies) — Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov left Athens for Moscow on Thursday after a three-day official visit during which he signed a 10-year agreement to improve economic and industrial ties.

He was seen off at Athens Airport by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and his entire cabinet as well as by the commanders of the Greek armed forces. Strict security measures were in force.

A joint communique, to be issued in Moscow and Athens, is expected to deal with arms reduction, detente and the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkan peninsula, as well as with Greece's disputes with Turkey over territorial rights in the Aegean and Cyprus.

Meanwhile, an extreme left-wing group claimed responsibility for an explosion Wednesday night near the restaurant where Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov was dining.

# GLOBAL WEATHER

Min		Max				Min		Max			
C	F	C	F			C	F	C	F		
Amsterdam	11	32	6	43	clear	Mexico City	7	45	23	73	clear
Athens	11	32	4	39	clear	Miami	21	70	26	79	cloudy
Bahrain	12	54	17	63	clear	Montreal	-4	25	2	36	cloudy
Bangkok	27	81	32	90	clear	Moscow	-7	19	-6	21	clear
Beirut	8	46	12	54	rain	New Delhi	11	52	24	75	cloudy
Berlin	-5	23	5	41	clear	New York	5	41	10	50	cloudy
Buenos Aires	1	34	4	39	cloudy	Nicosia	2	36	16	61	rain
Brussels	20	68	28	82	rain	Oslo	-4	25	-10	14	cloudy
Cairo	5	41	18	64	cloudy	Paris	5	41	9	48	cloudy
Cancun	20	68	30	86	cloudy	Peking	5	41	28	82	clear
Chicago	1	34	10	50	snow	Rio de Janeiro	22	72	37	99	rain
Copenhagen	-2	28	4	39	clear	Rome	0	32	9	48	clear
Dublin	-7	19	3	37	clear	San Francisco	12	54	15	59	cloudy
Frankfurt	-5	23	5	41	clear	Seoul	-4	25	6	43	clear
Geneva	-6	21	3	37	clear	Singapore	24	75	34	93	rain
Helsinki	-5	23	4	39	clear	Stockholm	-4	25	2	36	clear
Hong Kong	14	57	18	64	rain						
Jakarta	23	73	32	90	rain	Taipei	13	55	17	63	cloudy
Kuala Lumpur	23	73	35	95	clear	Tokyo	2	36	8	46	snow
London	7	45	20	68	rain	Toronto	2	36	6	43	cloudy
Los Angeles	15	61	20	68	rain	Vancouver	10	50	15	59	rain
Madrid	8	46	17	63	cloudy	Vienna	-7	19	1	34	cloudy
Manila	20	68	31	88	clear						

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